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'It's Your Play'

Ready to play their new organ are members of the Paul Coffman family. Jack Gallagher of the Gallagher Music company (right) presents the prize to Mr. and Mrs. Coffman and son Eric. The Coffmans won the organ by telling why the Lowrey organ was the best buy.

Today's Kids Enjoy Pools, Not the Poor

By RUTH VOGT
Special Writer

Instead of the 'poor' existing in one's neighboring backyard these days, swimming pools do.

When children grab a bath towel after being invited over for an afternoon's dip, a parent wonders if they will gain as much for their 'storehouse of memories' as she did when allowed, a quarter of a century ago, to take a basket of food-stuff over to, say, two elderly sisters living alone?

'Em and Ally Edwards' were their names. No one possessed a room was shut off, almost like a more interesting house! Their front shrine, 'from the bare lean-to

kitchen) by a pair of fascinating faded drapes that had long cowhide tassels hanging from them. In their parlor stood a little velvet chair. The velvet was worn on the arms and up the back. No one ever sat on them.

A rocker stood at the front window of this tiny front room. And a stand with thick curly legs guarded it. Treasures like one huge book with yellow pages and colored flowers running up and down its pages lay opened on its marble top; a huge sea shell and a picture of two little girls in lacy dresses and solemn expressions stood behind the book.

"THAT'S ME and Em when we were ten," Ally used to explain and then she'd let a visitor put her

Adults Often Cause Teen Drink Problems

EDITOR'S NOTE: Carl H. Zwinck, Birmingham high school instructor, recently returned from the Summer School of Alcohol studies at Yale university. Here he reports more of his findings on problems involving beverage alcohol.

By CARL H. ZWINCK
BHS Science Instructor

Recent issues of several Michigan newspapers have carried articles I wrote about teen-age drinking at lake and park areas. In each case, the same issue carried news items on the same problem, often reporting fines given to teen-agers illegally possessing intoxicants, and fines and jail sentences given to adults who supplied these intoxicants to minors.

Law enforcement officials have given strong warnings in many nearby parts of the state that severe penalties would be given in order to reduce the amount of drinking by minors at beaches and other recreation spots. The Birmingham Eccentric has reported problems in this area.

Most teen-agers are good citizens and cannot be blamed for this increasing problem. Adults who supply intoxicants to minors, and who in some cases encourage their drinking, create problems

ears down to the mammoth shell. "Can you hear the ocean?" she'd ask her wide-eyed little friend.

To the left were two tiny bedrooms. They, too, had curtains instead of doors. Only a bed, a chest holding a white porcelain basin and a pitcher, and one chair, very straight backed, occupied these rooms. The beds? Always covered by a cream colored homemade spread. Never a wrinkle showed. Nor any dust.

SITTING at the kitchen table, it was easy to watch 'Em manipulate a black wooden stove. Into its belly would be stuffed pieces of wood, and before smoke could curl out of its lids she'd turn the danger on its chimney and the fire caught. It was like magic.

"Thank your mother, be sure to, for her thoughtfulness," she reminded the errand girl. "Em and Ally Edwards," two elderly sisters living in a tiny wooden house. With a flower and vegetable garden on their back lot which took the place of a social security number.

Somewhat, they never seemed 'poor.' Even though no real money came their way. Only neighbors.

How was a five-year-old to know that they were adding to her childhood, by just living near her back yard, a third dimension that would never completely fade?

Will our elegant man-made swimming pools being built be able to contribute as rich a storehouse of memories?

We were so wealthy for having 'Em and Ally Edwards' in our back yard.

B'HAM ECCENTRIC Page
Thursday, August 6, 1958 5-B

are caused by the behavior of adults. For teen-agers, the most immediate danger is intoxication. Partial intoxication, which can be produced by two or three drinks, makes operation of cars, boats, and other machines or vehicles dangerous.

This summer local recreation areas have seen more teen-age drinking than ever before. The number of complaints about disorderly conduct received by police is increasing. It is not possible, and probably not desirable, to stop all drinking, but certainly there should be limitations on amounts, times, and places for such drinking, especially among minors.

The legal drinking age in Michigan is 21. Either the law should be changed or adults should not encourage teen-agers to violate the law. Teen-agers cannot be expected to respect laws which adults ignore. Children imitate bad behavior as well as good behavior; adults should set the kind of example they want followed.

MOST TEEN drinking problems

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