

'Principal Richard Spiess, This Is...'



... said the voice over the "p.a." Only one of the 1,200 persons in the Bloomfield Hills high school auditorium was surprised—Richard Spiess, the man who has been "boss" there since 1942. In true TV fashion Spiess (pictured above) was led, slightly dazed, to the stage. Students, teachers, parents, alumni planned the show as a surprise present for the principal's 25th anniversary in the Bloomfield Hills school district. The committee of parents and

teachers, headed by choir director Clarence Luchtman had worked since February looking up and lining up visitors from Spiess' past and present. Fitting in both categories were his parents, Arthur and Eva, now of Eutaw, Fla. (pictured above). At the mike is high school librarian Kenneth Ollis. In the background are students who appeared in the annual concert—"The Anniversary of Spring".



The firm grip of an old, friendly hand was the next surprise as James (Bingo) Brown walked out from behind the curtains. Brown was dean of men at Eastern Michigan college when Spiess attended (1928-32), and

still holds that position now that it's a university. Spiess, born in Romeo, Mich., approached what was then a teachers' college with a family background in the profession; his mother and grandmother were teachers.



Next a gift from the board of education presented by Supt. Eugene L. Johnson. Then, students made it possible for Spiess to give an annual gift to the school when they told him of the \$100-a-year "Richard" Spiess to be used for the benefit of the school in whatever way the principal chooses.

And next, less of a surprise, but no less pleasant, was a kiss from daughter Mary, a senior in nursing at the University of Michigan. The chorus, meanwhile, stuck to the printed program, and sang songs from "down memory lane" songs that grew up with the man being honored. "By the Light of the Silvery Moon" was popular in 1909, the year he was born.



"Shanty in Old Shanty Town", "Goodnight Sweetheart", "Easter Parade" were popular during his college days, and were revived for the reliving of those years. The memories, the songs, the friends come pouring back—brothers Ray from Lansing and John from Muskegon Heights, a sister,

Mrs. "Billie" Chapel from Indiana, former students and superintendents. Soon the couch and stage were full as he was joined by (from left): daughters Barbara (a student at BHHS) and Mary, his wife Olive, and his mother.



'So, That's How...'

The children's curiosity got the best of nursery school teacher and director Annemarie Roeper at City and Country school of Bloomfield Hills, so the children took a tour of the Bloomfield Hills post office last week. "How do letters get to my house?" "What happens in the post office?" "How does the postman know where I live?" were some of the questions that grew out of a class activity. To answer questions, each child dictated a letter to the teacher, who addressed the envelope. The child then put the letter in. Nancy Dzuba and Douglas Campbell try part of the process under postal supervision.



Visitors in Arizona

Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Waud and daughter, Jenifer of Birmingham, were recent guests at the Safari hotel in Scottsdale, Ariz. They enjoyed a delightful vacation of sunning, swimming, sightseeing and golfing on their first trip to the Valley of the Sun.

Is there any job more important to a parent than the one of properly raising his children? And is there any task confronting the average person more needful of preparatory training than that of carrying out the duties and responsibilities of parenthood? Yet, alas! how little does human society prepare its young for this important task. Maybe that's why the job isn't done too well.

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