

# Answers to Prejudice

(See related letter on 8-B) To the Editor:  
In answer to Mrs. Bill Jones. Through the years I have learned that prejudices are fastened and kept alive through ignorance. Your prejudices (taught to you by someone else) regarding the Negro and how few have been irradiated by knowledge of the particular people mentioned.

SO, TOO, knowledge of what a Catholic does stand for, what the basic principles of the Catholic Church are will most likely dispel any prejudicial feelings you may have acquired through the teachings of uninformed people.

Since international peace is what we all want, each one of us must first start with peace in our own family, neighborhood and nation by stamping out prejudice through knowledge. We are not born with prejudice. It must be taught.

Mrs. John J. Mooney  
1226 Winchcombe  
Birmingham

To the Editor:  
I think that Mrs. Bill Jones in her letter to the editor is upset that the millennium has not arrived. Whatever she is told, she is free to act and think as seems right to her. She can rejoice that we live in a free country.  
The Negroes have a chance here to improve and are winning their way — barriers are being broken down.

AS FOR THE Jews, I think the article written by a Jew in the December Digest, "My Long Journey to Eisenhower," is very fine. One cannot help differences in viewpoint. Christians and Jews have vitally different viewpoints yet all are free to live their lives in peace in America.  
The unions and the employers have different viewpoints, yet much has been worked out with them together—all is not settled yet.

TO MAKE ANY of these things personal is not right.  
Also, Catholic and Protestants have different viewpoints. One does

not agree with the other, but it is not personal.  
Martin Luther started, but it is Christ, but give one's own choice, but friends are one's own choice, but give one's own right to their opening and ways of doing.  
Concerned

To the Editor:  
Mrs. Bill Jones seems to be a victim of the times. Minority groups, which used to go about quietly being Americans, now demand recognition by blaring of their affiliations. Perhaps the public, surfeited by this demonstration, associates them with their weaknesses rather than their strengths. Instead of searching for friends we could all reassess our sense of values by putting the education of our children, the welfare of our country and the ability for all to make a decent living above our personal feelings.  
Housewife

## MOMS' Luncheon

Mrs. John W. Walrath will open her home 3327 Dogwood court, Bloomfield Hills, for a luncheon and card party Friday at 12:30. Proceeds will be used to carry on the work of the Birmingham MOMS to aid the veterans.

## NATURE NOW

# Nature's Inventiveness Illustrated by Seedpods

Any naturalist worth his salt becomes the willing target for those happy people who have enough curiosity to pick up and wonder about the objects (dead or alive) which they find in the out-of-doors.  
In attempting to identify such "unknowns" your article has been led into many pleasant paths of learning which she otherwise might have missed.  
Seed pods are a familiar part

# City-Country School Dedication Sunday

A new elementary school, a new concept in school design, will be dedicated Sunday in Bloomfield Hills.

## Moden, Bearden Exchange Vows

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Bearden of Glenhurst drive, Bloomfield Village, announce the marriage of their daughter, Judith Ann, to Robert John Moden on Oct. 8 at Grace Lutheran church in Redford. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Moden of Southfield.

Attending the bride was Beverly Elliott and best man was the bridegroom's brother, George Moden. Seating the guests were William Friend and David Junker. A wedding reception for about 100 guests immediately followed the ceremony at Friendship Hall. The newlyweds chose northern Michigan for their wedding trip.

By Lydia King Frehse  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Hart. The program will begin at 3 p.m. and a tour of the structure will follow.  
City and Country school is a new hexagonal shape structure. It is the first building in a long range plan which eventually will include facilities for junior and senior high schools and an auditorium—to be completed in five to seven years.

MONEY FOR the \$43,193 building was raised through contributions from local foundations, parents of students and friends.

Incorporated in the hexagonal design are special, glassed-in work rooms, where four to six children can do individual work with teacher supervision through the windows. These work rooms are located at an adjacent angle to every two classrooms.

Two of the classrooms are separated by a sliding accordion door which may be opened to make one large classroom. Large windows in each classroom overlook a wooded area and a free-form outdoor swimming pool.



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# LAKES' JEWELERS

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of our late autumn landscape. Recently a child's curiosity led her to pick up one such pod which was long, pointed, five chambered, dry and brown. She carried it to her teacher who is Mrs. Edward Moden, secretary who, in turn, sent it to me.

DOWN FROM the shelf came my well-thumbed botany but alas it was not in "The Book of Flowers", in due time my subconscious came to the rescue to say, "This is a pod of the vegetable okra which I used to see in St. Louis markets."

In its green state it is used to make soups and gumbo, especially in the Bayou country of the south, but one adventurous gourmet gardener hereabouts must have tried it in his garden.

Okra is a Mallow, a member of a family native to the warmer regions of Asia, Africa and Europe.

Mrs. Frehse

Certain representatives of this group in the United States have escaped from cultivation as have our barnyard mallows. Hibiscus, hollyhock, rose of Sharon and our useful cotton plant are cultivated members of this family.

YESTERDAY, A SEED pod tumbled from a letter sent to me by a friend in Canada. This one was familiar for I learned to know it early on canoe trips down the Auxable river where the wild cucumber with its star-shaped leaves and prickly fruit climbs in a tangled mass covering shrubs and small trees. Both it and the cucumber we eat are relatives in the Gourd family.

So I could take up my pen and write: "The wild cucumber has an interesting method of seed dispersal. As the fruit ripens the decaying tissues within generate a gas which explodes rupturing the valves of the two-celled pod and sending the four seeds to find new homes at some distance from the parent plant."

"Seeds which simply drop to the ground often have to grow in a 'slum' where life is so crowded and competitive that few of them can make a livelihood."

ALTHOUGH WE usually think of a pod as a long, flat seed container, in truth the word is used to describe any dry seed case or fruit. The well known pea or bean stalk or locust tree produces typical pods. However, seed containers vary greatly in size, shape and structure.

Nature shows much inventive skill in the role she assigns to the pod in seed dispersal, a process whose mechanism is carefully triggered to the individual needs of the species. The poppy simply shakes its seeds from an urn-shaped capsule with a perforated top like a salt shaker. It takes but a touch of the finger or the wind on a ripened pod of the jewweed to separate it into five spiraling coils which throw the seeds afar.

Nature has shaped the capsule of the twin-leaf in my wild flower garden into a neat vessel with well marked lid complete with knob. When the seed is ripe, a vertical tissue of the pod contracts releasing the lid of the drying structure and tipping it earthward, while the round seeds spill and roll away.

THE WILD GERANIUM is topped with a beaked capsule which splits upward from the five-celled ovary each strand lifting a single seed enclosed in its own cup-like tissue and tossing it away as a pitcher throws a ball.

John Burroughs records how he was awakened on one autumn night by a series of loud popping sounds. Upon investigating he found that the withered branch which he had brought into his bedroom had shot forth its seeds, some to a distance of 20 feet.

In the end a pod is an extra coat with which nature cloaks the already enclosed seed thus giving it added protection and frequently enabling it with unique dispersal power.

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