

Ruth Shain's Memorial of Service

When a man, or a woman, personally assumes leadership in the promotion of a program dedicated to the public welfare, he or she certainly is entitled to thankful praise.

But when a woman voluntarily assumes such leadership and faithfully carries it on for the long period of 40 years... well, something more than a mere "Thank you!" is due.

All of which sends this editor to his typewriter this week to inform Ruth (Mrs. Charles J.) Shain that her 40 years as founder and director of the Ruth Shain class on International Relations has been a greatly appreciated educational feature for approximately a thousand local and nearby women—with now and then some males tossed in for extra measure.

RUTH SHAIN, a former school teacher, was ably fitted to institute and carry on the work she started back in 1920 when, as president of the Birmingham branch of the American Association of University Women, she couldn't find a member to take over a class on International Relations... so she did it herself.

Perhaps few such classes have received the type of programming that she set in motion for those who sought up-to-date information regarding the world scene. Ruth Shain, with her late husband, made fre-

quent trips abroad, gathering first-hand data for her class. She also was a frequent visitor to the various United Nations programs in New York City.

It was a fitting climax to Mrs. Shain's long and devoted service when 280 women, plus a dozen or so men, gathered for a "breakfast" at the Community House Thursday of last week, to honor 40 years of her class... and, perhaps, the last one under her personal leadership.

A PROMINENT federal government official, Dr. Roger Hilsman, authority on U.S. diplomatic affairs, addressed the meeting. Others commented, eulogistically, on Mrs. Shain's "labor of love"... and she, modestly, in a very few brief words, thanked her past and present "students." "This final meeting today is a high point in my life... and I thank you all for making it a success," she said, with some emotion.

Forty years is a long time in anybody's life. But, when one uses portions of time to carry on a dedicated activity of voluntary, unpaid service for others... so lengthy the time passes happily, though quickly.

So, Ruth Shain, on behalf of all concerned, we join with your host of friends and say: "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Double-Crossing Our Indians

"As long as water flows, or grass grows upon the earth, or the sun rises to show your pathway, or you kindle your campfires, so long shall you be protected by this Government, and never again be removed from your present habitation."

Such was the promise, in 1854, of Senator Sam Houston of Texas to the American Indians.

But hang a shroud on the door of the Supreme Court Building in Washington. By a vote of 6 to 3, the Court has ruled that the Federal Power Commission, and the State of New York can take away, over their objection, 1,000 acres of land from the Tuscarora Indian Nation, which the Indians have owned since 1804.

For reasons too long to state here, the six Judges declare that the land can be lawfully taken by eminent domain.

MAYBE SO. BUT what the minority

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

The way we figured it out months ago, Senator Hubert Humphrey never had a chance to win out in the several state primary elections he entered, in his frenzied efforts to gain prestige as a Democratic Presidential nominee. This overly ambitious Minnesota do-gooder carried a political sample case that presented too much liberalism to too many segments of our people — so many, in fact, that most average citizens "saw through" his shrewdness, and thus rejected him. Humphrey's defeat, we hope, proves that not all of the United States is foolish and/or ignorant enough to swallow everything a hustling political hawker offers them during a campaign for votes.

Judges say it is worth reading:

"These Indians have a way of life which the Government has seen fit to protect, if not to encourage... It may be hard for us to understand why they cling so tenaciously to their lands and traditional tribal way of life..."

"Great nations, like great men, should keep their promises."

It is too bad that the Court's dissenters in this case did not remain as loyal to American constitutional traditions in some of its other cases dealing with Communism and Communists.

But Courts, of course, being made up of mere men, are subject to fallibility—just as each of us ordinary citizens is.

So wag the caprices of humanly-made jurisprudence.

Cuba's Castro would like to boot the U.S. Navy right out of Guantanamo, our strong Caribbean naval base. We'd like to see a picture printed, showing Castro being tossed into the Bay there by a loyal American gob. What a good splash that would make!

Just imagine it! A few words spoken wisely and well, can turn a political aspirant into a success at the polls. Likewise, a few words spoken unwisely and not at all well, can dispatch a fairly well-behaved public official into civic oblivion. Upon such thin, gossamer threads may hang the fate of a state, or a nation... or a world!

The Birmingham Eccentric

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Basil Rathbone, one of the dramatic world's greats, is concerned because there are so few legitimate theaters in the United States today.

Recalling that in the 1920's there were more than 400 of them, he said there is a scant handful today.

"The theater, television, radio, movies cannot go on this way," he emphasized during his recent visit here in connection with the Will-O-Way Theater school.

RATHBONE WAS HERE to comment on the performances of more than a dozen amateur thespians from the Detroit area. The actors and actresses did except from well-known plays.

Rathbone reacted to their performances with suggestions—and in a most understanding manner.

His comments came not as a criticism, but rather as an encouragement.

Several times he remarked: "Wonderful! Terrific! Can't suggest a thing to help you!"

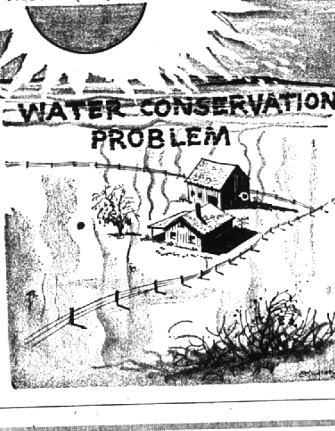
He said he was not here to criticize, "I just have opinions."

HE PRAISED THE AMATEUR theater, said it was the only place where dramatic art will be kept alive.

"We can't all go to Broadway—there aren't enough theaters, good playwrights, or acting opportunities there," he said. "We've got to learn in places like Will-O-Way."

He complimented Mrs. Celia Way Merrill and her staff for her "remarkable achievement and idea" in the theater school.

Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch...



Nature Now Is on Page 7-B

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Student Leader Praises Parenteers

Quite recently Birmingham suddenly realized that the life of a teenager at the high schools is not all flowers and roses. The reason for his somewhat rude awakening was the Parenteers organization.

This committee was formed by several civic-minded parents and teenagers who felt that it was their duty to use to several calls for help from teenagers. The call that mostly aroused this committee was a letter which had appeared in the Birmingham Eccentric in the letter to The Editor column in the Birmingham Eccentric. This letter was written by a university student who felt that somewhere at Birmingham high school had gotten off on the wrong foot. He felt that the social opportunity in the high school was too great.

SO GREAT, in fact, that it had led many teenagers like himself to university student. I can assure you that there have been many more since and that there will be many more in the future.

On April 10 the Parenteers program was presented to the Seaholm High School P.T.A. The main purpose of this special program was to give the high school parents the background necessary to start such a program. Parents present were given a good unbiased view of the organization through a tape recording and slides unfolding the problems with which the committee is concerned and a short history of the work that has gone into it. This was followed by a panel discussion of high school students.

THE QUESTIONS discussed were those that had drawn a high opposition in the recent Parenteers questionnaire. The parental response to this program was very great.

As a senior, I find that I agree with the Parenteers committee. I think that there has been much misunderstanding as to what this organization wants to do. First, the committee is interested in setting up a code for uncertain parents to follow concerning the teenager's hours, dating habits and social activities. This is NOT an effort to stifle teenage social activities. This would be impossible, and I am sure that the committee would have little teenage support if this was true.

I AM CERTAIN that many parents at one time or another ques-

tion the time which their child should be home from a date or party. It is in situations like this that the code will act as a guidebook to these parents. All these guides will contain information concerning different age groups. Most of the students at both the Birmingham high school are very happy that a code of this kind has been initiated. I feel that this guide can very easily eliminate the counter. It is very possible for a teenager to meet the social pressure at the high school and as a result feel that he must be will to be accepted.

This is not true, but the pressure is still there. I AM SURE that parents cannot be aware of the whole situation existing at the high schools. Therefore, look around you and try to become aware of these conditions. If you look, they are easy to find. The teenagers at Seaholm have taken one good look at themselves and are searching for solutions through this Parenteers. We are aware of our problems; now we need the support of our parents.

BOB BROOKMAN
Former Student Congress President
2429 Broadway, Bloomfield township

Seniors Ask Disarmament And Peace

To the Editor: The following is a letter that the Senior class of Bloomfield Hills high school sent to President Eisenhower, Mr. DeGaulle, Mr. McMillan, Premier Khrushchev and Mr. Diefenbaker. We would like them to know that we, as students, are interested in world peace and that we are vitally concerned with the future of the world. As the seniors of Bloomfield Hills high school, we have often heard that the future of the world is in our hands and in the hands of all of the youth of the world. And it

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
May 29, 1910
"A reader writes us this: 'Mr. Water Wagon Man! Less water on our crosswalks, if you please, for the mud on the crosswalks is far worse than the dust here. Now please desist; this is the sentiment of the people.' And while on the subject, Mr. Water Wagon Man, please put more water on Woodward ave. and pretty please, do double the dose Saturday and Sunday."

15 YEARS AGO
May 17, 1945
"The annual (Birmingham) city budget was adopted by the city commission Monday evening. The budget totals \$387,711.31."

30 YEARS AGO
May 22, 1930
"Memorial Day services for the Polar Bear, dead whose bodies were brought back from Russia last year, will be one of the most impressive military funerals ever held in this country—more than 100,000 persons being expected to attend according to Col. Walter C. Dundon, president of the Polar Bear Association."

Women have the funniest eyes. They can spot a blonde hair on a man's coat from across the room, but they can miss a garage door opening by a yard.

If there's one thing that ages quicker than an old joke it's an old alibi.

No man goes before his time... unless the boss goes on vacation.

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