

4 New Goals for School Leaders

In a recent talk before the Birmingham Rotary club, Supt. of Schools Otis M. Dickey outlined 12 policies which the school board and he and his administrative staff are using to guide the public school program.

Eight of these policies are familiar with—the system has been using them for some time. These include in-service training for teachers, continuing long-range projections by the school board, use of lay advisory committees, aid from colleges and universities to accelerate learning opportunities for talented students, systematic research by professionals on needs of the system, trial of forward-looking programs, speeding up subject-offerings consistent and harmonious to the learner's readiness, and improving and better use of teaching aids.

HOWEVER, WE ESPECIALLY note four policies—which if they are not new to the board and administration—certainly never before have received such public stress from our school administrators.

These are the new policies:

- 1) A community-wide survey to be made of public reaction to the school system;
- 2) A concerted effort by the administration to rise above the detail and routine of their jobs and thereby provide "leader-

ship to coordinate, guide and implement this planning for improvement";

- 3) Encouragement of more emphasis on intuitive and analytic thinking, and
- 4) Development of more compelling motives for learning.

IT IS A BOLD STEP to learn what your constituents think of you. But certainly it is a prerequisite to strengthening your operation. If this survey is objective—and we have been assured it will be—the school board soon will be in a position to concentrate on the system's weaknesses, and build on or protect its strong points. There's nothing quite like finding out what people think of you—if you are courageous enough to face the opinions come-as-they-may.

It's refreshing to note, too, that Dickey's administration will attempt to stress administrative leadership rather than ride along with routine or dwell on details.

MOST IMPORTANT, we feel, is the new stress to be placed on development of the student's motive for learning and his ability to think for himself.

If these four new policies are applied—even to a modest degree—it speaks well for Birmingham's educational leadership, and it will be of inestimable value to the students and to the general public.

Defending One's Right To Disagree

Certain home truths about freedom are worth remembering. Freedom is, for example, conditioned on vigilance and cannot be permanently guaranteed to a people too apathetic to protect it. The encroachments of Communism since World War II, which have put millions behind the Iron Curtain and have even reached into this hemisphere, ought to sharpen our awareness of the fact that we cannot take liberty for granted.

It also is true, however, as Daniel Webster said, that "liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraints." In fighting to defend our democratic society we must remain within the framework of the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech and the right to dissent.

J. EDGAR HOOVER, not one to shrink

from stepping on Communist toes, has nevertheless firmly aligned himself with those who stress the importance of keeping that freedom. In combatting world Communism, Hoover said recently, we must not resort to vigilante tactics. "We must guard against the tendency," he cautioned, "to characterize as Communists those who merely disagree with us or who advocate unorthodox or unpopular beliefs."

This goes to the very core of the matter. These words of the FBI head ought to be reiterated again and again by all who cherish the precious American right to be different. If, in our zeal to defend America, we cast suspicion on those with whom we disagree, we may inadvertently spread distrust and suspicion. Nothing would please the Communists more than that.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

It is a matter of fact that the United States has given foreign nations did not enable them to effect internal reforms—reforms that would help them to become self-reliant, self-responsible, plus other achievements that would make them economically secure and politically free. Partly because too much of the money got into the wrong hands, but mostly because money, alone, rarely resulted in the desired objectives—whether in an individual or a nation. This is especially true of those smaller, so-called backward nations. Seems to us that the U.S. needs to develop an ideology of freedom... spelling out what freedom is; that only from its development and use can an individual or a nation ever attain reasonable political, social and economic security.

There are many ways in which U.S. democracy is "on trial". Perhaps a very important one is whether or not certain labor unions, led by certain very aggressive leaders, are going to prove themselves stronger than the federal government itself. For example: the Teamsters' Union, under the control of pugacious Jimmy Hoffa, openly defies Uncle Sam to cleanse it of all improper officials. Jimmy was requested to do this a couple of years ago; a Senate Committee claims he hasn't done anything about this... and Jimmy retorts words to the effect that "my union is clean."

As population increases world-wide, every country is bound to have the problem of providing food, clothing and shelter for many of its urban population. This, of course, is because the rank and file of industrial labor cannot always find uninterrupted employment—and, not living on acreage of his own, nor being able and

willingly to "save for a rainy day," must depend upon government, unemployment insurance, for his sustenance. This is the penalty of an industrial era. Years ago Henry Ford tried to have his employees own a piece of land from which they could get a goodly portion of their food. Without an income, or other kind of support, it is impossible to live in a modern city.

Various newspaper columnists, notably those believed to seek to influence the public via slanted opinions, are suggesting that former Vice-President Richard M. Nixon "is all through." Of course, Nixon isn't through at all. He still remains, traditionally, the titular head of the Republican party. Don't forget that he came within 114,000 votes of tying President Kennedy—and that ain't an overwhelming defeat. So don't count Nixon out for a possible return to the 1964 Presidential campaign.

Coronet magazine tells about a Columbia University professor who is credited with the discovery of a sentence that can be made to have eight different meanings by placing the word "only" in all possible positions in the sentence. It reads: "I hit him in the eye yesterday."

A British newspaper recently polled several thousand readers on the question: "Would you marry the same person again?" Four out of ten women and three out of ten men said they'd rather try a new spouse. Seven times as many women as men answered the poll.

This we'll wager: If U.S. citizens were asked to make tremendous personal sacrifices in order to defend their freedom, and were very sure that no "political partisan-ship" was involved, they would do so.

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PEOPLE'S COLUMN Should Citizens Vote On City Parking Lots?

To the Editor:
Would it not be better for Birmingham if our commissioners were required to obtain approval by vote of the citizens before proceeding with costly projects like the Reid Building parking lot and the proposed new lot off Willets Street?

Should they not get similar approval before they could sell, give away or permit encroachment on our public park areas?

At present they can do as they please. Their only restraint is public opinion. This is an ineffective check, since most of the voters never hear about these things until after they are done.

New Yorker Requests Letters to Congressmen

To the Editor:
There are several measures which I believe could help mankind. These could be brought about, if the American public will take the time to write, telephone or wire their congressman in Washington, D.C., today.

I demand that they POSTPONE the building of the KINZUA DAM and RESERVOIR, which would automatically use up the habitable part of the Seneca Indian Reservation and WOULD VIOLATE THE TREATY AND PROMISES given the Indians by George Washington and the Federal Government. THE CONEWAGO-CATTARAUGUS PROJECT would ACCOMPLISH the same purpose as the KINZUA and would STORE THREE TIMES AS MUCH FLOOD WATER AND SAVE \$100,000,000.

The people of Pennsylvania, especially those around the Pittsburgh area have been led to believe that the construction of the Kinzua dam is the only way to FLOOD PROTECTION OF PITTSBURGH. That is not the case—NINETEEN PERCENT OF THE WATER-SHED ABOVE PITTSBURGH.

THE KINZUA AND ALL other Reservoirs in the Allegheny and Monongahela Watersheds would have control about HALF the watershed above Pittsburgh... A GREATER FLOOD THAN PITTSBURGH HAS YET EXPERIENCED would come from the remaining unreserved areas.

Kinzua Dam would be important, but a very limited element in the country are doing (Arizona). The Conewago-Cattaraugus would benefit the Senecas, Pittsburgh and the Conewago areas, and the Ohio River valley could be constructed IF THE TIME OF THE KINZUA.

2. Grant the Pima Indians the right to the State of ARIZONA WATER RIGHTS, just like the other citizens in that part of the country are doing (Arizona).

3. Demand that a distribution bill be passed to grant the Omaha Indians and other tribes Indians in America, who are DESPERATELY IN NEED OF HELP, help that will HELP THEM TO HELP THEMSELVES.

THE OMAHA Indians do have a long range community development plan, but unfortunately they have asked the Bureau of Indian Affairs to make a loan of \$250,000 which was refused because the Omahas were awarded a claims settlement to the tune of \$200,000 that's been sitting in the treasury since Feb. 11, 1960.

The Omahas cannot purchase equipment to dig wells, cultivate their land, build homes, schools, and roads. It is absolutely impossible to do this WITH BARE HANDS. EMPTTY PROMISES AND WITHOUT MONEY which is rightfully the Indians (Omahas).
4. Grant Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, 1853

Urges Everyone Should Support Guidance Clinic

To the Editor:
At a time when the community is beginning to learn and depend upon the Child Guidance Clinic program for treatment and understanding of its many problems relating to children, it would indeed be a tremendous loss to the entire country for the Birmingham unit to discontinue its operation.

When the most progressive communities are encouraging the development of mental health facilities, it is difficult to understand why we cannot provide funds at least to maintain the existing Child Guidance Clinic program.

Not only would the loss of the clinic be harmful for many children, and detrimental to the advancement of mental health in our community, but also it would reflect badly on Oakland County and the State of Michigan.

I strongly urge everyone to make every attempt possible to understand the need and to provide support for the continuation of the full program of the Oakland County Guidance Clinics.

WARREN S. KENNISON, M.D.
250 Martin, Bham.

STRICTLY FRESH
Moose on the railroad tracks have been responsible for many delays of Alaskan trains. The time seems to be ripe for an inventor to step forward with a better moose-trap.

50 YEARS AGO
March 17, 1911
Starting with Saturday the women were in eight and doing two weeks work for the sewer proposition and the result attained. These votes can be relied upon and did their work nobly like veteran voters—only more so.

Everything comes to those who wait. The inside of our library constant of our library constant has been painted, the walls tiled and every thing put in order.

Next Wednesday evening being the last lesson of Professor Barr's dancing class, it will take the form of a party. Those wishing to attend should procure tickets from members of the dancing class. All step should come as Barr will put on at on this time. Music for the occasion will be furnished by an orchestra. Miss Cloonan will preside at the piano.

30 YEARS AGO
March 15, 1931
With beginning of the campaign in Birmingham Monday against the "Black Panther" has been the organization meeting was held at the

home of Mrs. Gordon T. Hendrie of Willetts Street. Members of the group reported their determination to aid in defeating the Foster bill at the state election April 6.

At a special meeting of the Bloomfield Township Board, called Monday, the board voted three to one, to engage the services of L. Rosenberg, certified public accountant of our library, to conduct the first annual audit of the township books. The estimated cost would be \$250, with an additional expenditure of \$250 for the installation of a new delinquent tax system and additions to the present system. James V. Bayley, township clerk announced.

Theresa Van Dusen, at her home on Puritan road, entertained at dinner Saturday evening for Grace Autenbach, sister of the Rev. Hamilton Autenbach. On Tuesday, Mrs. Percy K. Loud of Lone Pine Road entertained at a luncheon for Miss Autenbach.

15 YEARS AGO
March 14, 1946
Organization for the special campaign for canned foods for the starving peoples of war-torn coun-

tries of Europe and the Far East was completed Monday evening at a conference of the great committee and workers representing many churches and clubs, held at the Community House. The campaign has been endorsed by the City Commission, the Community Council and the Birmingham Board of Merchants Association Board of Directors.

Fraternalities and societies in the city and other secret societies in the Birmingham High School were outlawed Monday evening through a joint resolution unanimously adopted by the seven members of the Birmingham School Board. The resolution, which stipulated that beginning Sept. 1, 1946, students and parents will be acquainted with the state law governing these illegal bodies and required to sign a card at both the beginning and the end of each semester.

Birmingham and Bloomfield branches of the National Farm and Garden Association met in the Community House Monday. During the business meeting it was voted that the Birmingham branch sponsor a garden week as a civic project in the spring.

One Thing or Another

BY GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Another instance to prove history repeats itself has been brought to this column's attention.

O. A. Luckenbach, 424 Willetts, Birmingham, has been going through the effects of his late father. Among the discoveries are some old newspaper clippings.

The elder Luckenbach had saved a copy of the Easton Democrat from the year 1840. (The Luckenbach family used to live in Easton, Pa., about seven miles out of Bethlehem.)

ONE OF THE ITEMS in that old issue read: "There are numerous gangs of genteel loafers in New York who, from the circumstances of wearing long locks of hair, well soaked, down the sides of their faces in lieu of whiskers, are called the 'soap lock gang'. We are happy in being enabled to state that this most deleterious fashion has reached Easton, as we saw several nincompoops parading Gt. street a few days since, of the genuine Soap Lock order."

"Be this your motto, and you are it said, Soap will your locks, and sport an empty head."

DOES THAT REMIND you of a receding-fad among today's smart (?) young men—the duck-tail hairdo, the long sideburns?

Luckenbach also found the Nov. 7, 1783 copy of the New-York Morning Post in an inside page

was the text of General George Washington's "Farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States", which he had issued five days previously.

Not only does the past repeat itself, but sometimes what should become the past never seems to do so. It is kept alive by the present. Like these expressions:

"Thanks for nothing" . . . "The sky's the limit" . . . "Give the devil his due" . . . "Let the worst come to the worst" . . . "A finger in every pie" . . . "A peck of troubles" . . . "Every dog has his day" . . . "A wild goose chase".

If you're re-reading your "Don Quixote" lately, you'll know every one of the above were written by Cervantes more than 350 years ago.

This country doesn't have to fear that Communism will take over. If the American workers heard someone shout, "Workers arise!", they'd merely think it signaled the end of the coffee break.

All that experience teaches some people is to recognize the same mistake the second time.

Many a self-made man worships his creator.

City Beat

BY KEN WEAVER

Bill Price is a man with a serious task to perform, a job that will take him four years to complete.

If you watch Bill closely when he's discussing it, you will detect how determined, how intent he is about accomplishing it.

But if you watch him a little more closely, you will notice that Bill has a great sense of humor.

Especially when you see that infectious smile spreading across his face.

Gives him an air of companionability.

ANYWAY, BILL—formerly known as W. W. Price—is working with Dals Lamb to perform a certain charge for Birmingham Mayor Florence H. Willett.

They are co-chairmen of the Birmingham Civil War Centennial Commission.

The job: encouraging local residents to loan them any items they might possess pertaining to the War Between the States.

Like battle-pierced Bibles, wrinkled battlefield maps, faded diaries, worn-torn photos.

Of course, they'd appreciate anything in good shape, too.

These personal possessions will be returned to their rightful owners. Bill emphasizes.

What Bill and his fellow workers wish to do is compile information from these borrowed documents, letters, etc., into a volume to place in the city library.

Quite worthwhile to produce a localized Civil War history, is it not?

A SEWAGE plant without a sewer.

Garbage can art center.

That's what some people are saying about the proposal to convert Birmingham's inactive sewer treatment plant into the Birmingham Art Center.

Admittedly, it takes a stretch of the imagination to conceive of such a possibility.

But, it's imagination that makes progress possible.

There would be no automobiles, airplanes, radio or television if it hadn't been for people with imagination.

WHICH IS a long way to say that the Bloomfield Art Association has some people with good imaginations.

But, as BAA president Bob Bender has explained, the organization has thoroughly explored this possibility and has come to a positive conclusion.

Bender succinctly sums up BAA's proposal to the City in three steps:

1. BAA would undertake the conversion.
2. It would maintain the property.
3. The building would be called the Birmingham Art Center.

"THIS SORT of thing is not new.

Statesman, N. C., a community of 16,000, has developed an arts center with the gift from the city of an old pumping house.

It operates on a budget of \$6,000 a year.

BAA has a budget of \$22,000 a year.

So, it can be done. A sewer plant can be made into a community art center.

It takes foresight, planning, cooperation.

Talk of the Towns

BY DENI SCANLON

James Reston, chief of the Washington D. C. bureau of the New York Times, and Professor Wey Mauer, head of the journalism department at the University of Michigan, made similar observations when they recently addressed local groups.

"Never has there been so much change as there is at the present time," Reston said. He called for Americans to adjust to this pace of life.

Mauer talked a week later to a group of women, many of whom had probably heard Reston's dissertation.

Mauer's message was much the same.

"Conflicts today have resulted because man's stated, were born in tradition; they are disturbed when faced with 'new ways to do things'."

Finally, in desperation, she stood up at a well-attended meeting and asked, "Does anyone know where we can find a dandy runway?"

A calm masculine reply came forth: "Berz Airport."

Speaking of luncheons and speeches and smart Alec miles . . .

Two relatively young men, alone at a gathering with 200 women, tried to force back smiles of smugness about the chattering women.

"Why don't they shut up and eat?" was the look on their faces as they dug into the fruit cup.

So, it can be done. After many course dishes were cleared, they sat back and looked around at dessert. They were still hungry. Lady-type lunches weren't enough.

"Say waitress, 'um summoned.' 'May we have our dessert, please?'"

There was a lull. The smug smiles faded into chagrin. The ladies stopped eating their fruit cups.

Yes, the fellows had already tasted their just dessert.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

With fashion shows demanding more and more time and energy from local women, it may follow that the fashion show is getting more and more complicated.

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Best sign that good times are upon us is that the piano is coming back. When it's going back things are bad.

Medical experiments indicate that whole hearts may be transplanted. Up until now the Hollywood procedure has been to trade in the whole blonde.

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