

Launches Pill Bottles On Air-Borne Jaunt

Some empty pill bottles, traveling at least 100 miles by balloon, made a dramatic descent near Erie, Pa., in a Pennsylvania cornfield, proving the pioneer spirit is alive in the heart of at least one Birmingham boy.

Douglas Feham, 13, began four venturesome jaunts on their way Feb. 10 at 4:30 p.m. according to logs kept by this budding scientist and navigator; the flighty missiles were sighted and recovered within 24 hours by Earl S. Leach, near Erie, Pa.

Following the very explicit directions enclosed in the bottles, Leach returned one of the notes and explained the circumstances of the recovery.

HIS LETTER read: "Balloon was sighted at 1:15 p.m. coming down fast. It was found in our cornfield at 1:30 p.m. Two balloons were fast and one drifted away. We have the other one."

"We are located 20 miles south of Erie, Pa. and near the city of Girard, Pa."

The young astronaut speculated that the four bottles started out in northwest direction, switching destination to float across Lake Erie.

He was surprised when he was surprised when his experiment ended in

Pennsylvania; he was "sure they would land somewhere around Saginaw."

The helium-filled balloons were purchased at the local dime store and launched from the Feham home at 2768 Derby Road.

HIS PARENTS, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Feham, said Douglas had directed prospective finders: "If this capsule is found, please return as soon as possible. Important!"

The model missiles were prepared by running a string through the plastic cap of each bottle, knotting it, sealing the cap with masking tape and attaching the message to the balloons.

Several children in the neighborhood have launched air-borne messages in this manner, according to the boy's mother. Only Douglas have been "reported in."

In line with his scientific leanings, Douglas explained his successful experiment to his science class at school.

HIS MOTHER said he was "thrilled with the letter from Mr. Leach and with the way it all turned out."

"His only regret, it seems, is that radar was not attached to the balloon," so he "could follow their journey."

Possible Closing Of B'ham Child Clinic Deplored

To the Editor:

It has come to my attention as president of the Michigan Society of Neurology and Psychiatry that the Child Guidance Clinic in Birmingham is in danger of being closed, because Oakland County has not provided sufficient funds to supplement that provided by the State.

Our society has not had time to express itself in a formal resolution about this matter, but I feel sure that the majority of our members would feel about it as I do.

It would be indeed regrettable if this Clinic were to close.

NOT ONLY DOES it exist to protect the neighborhood, the school, and the community will benefit from his improved adjustments.

Not only is present suffering and tension reduced; the treatment of the child is the best hope we have for the prevention of adult mental illness.

If the community is to count closely the dollars it has to spend on the mental health of the child, let it imagine the direct and indirect costs it will later have from the adult.

THE CHILD with an unsolved problem may well become the adult with an unsolvable problem.

Surely, if the citizens of Birmingham are aware of the situation, they will let the county officials know that this kind of economy is short-sighted.



Earns New 'Star'

Air Force Reservist John W. Richardson accepts his new "star" from Colonel Downs E. Ingram, commander of the Fifth AF Reserve Region. Richardson, 612 Bennington Drive, Bloomfield Hills, received Senate confirmation of his promotion to Brigadier General late yesterday. General Richardson is Vice-Commander of the Fifth Region which is responsible for all Air Force Reserve activities in a 13-state mid-western area.

EUGENE J. ALEXANDER, MD, President, Michigan Society of Neurology and Psychiatry, Michigan District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association.

WXYZ Is Assisting Fund Drive for Community House

WXYZ-Radio has been urging its Birmingham, Bloomfield and surrounding area listeners to give generously during the 1961 Birmingham Community House Fund Drive.

Ever since the drive began March 6, WXYZ-Radio has scheduled a series of spot announcements to be used throughout the broadcast day. These announcements will run seven days a week until March 20 when the drive ends.

In the announcements, WXYZ-Radio is asking this question of Birmingham, Bloomfield listeners: "What would you do without the Community House?" Listeners are also reminded, "We expect to reach a goal of \$50,700, and we are confident of reaching this goal and more."

John Gilbert, general manager of the radio station, and Thoburn H. Wiant, publicity chairman of the fund drive, worked out the radio announcement campaign to aid in the drive.

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Showcase Plans National Network Of Exhibit Centers

Firm plans for the construction and operation of a National network of building-product exhibit and market-development centers were revealed recently by M. E. Puddington, 312 E. Brown, B'ham, president of Showcase, Inc.

The centers, to be called "Showcases" will be built within Kaiser Aluminum domes and will be located in 30 major marketing areas from coast to coast.

First Showcase (to be built in a Showdome) will be erected this year at a prime location in Detroit.

This Showcase, besides serving the Greater Detroit Metropolitan area, will also be national headquarters of both Showcase, Inc., the development and management organization, and Showdome, Inc., a new corporation set up to handle construction, financing and leasing arrangements.

DETAILS OF THE Showcase-Showdome program were given to a Detroit press-preview audience by Mrs. Puddington, chief executive officer of the planned 30-city network, who said, "My associates and I have been living with this idea for almost four years, and working and planning for the expanded operation we now have under way."

"During this time we have been running an exhibit center for building products and component parts in Birmingham. It has been our 'guinea pig,' our pilot plant, our laboratory. We now know what is needed by the building-products industry."

"We know those programs and services that are necessary to make these integrated exhibit centers a complete success. The answer is in what we call the 'Showcase Concept'—which encompasses far more than an exhibition area for a given number of building products," she said.

BUILDING OF Showcase of Detroit will start in about 90 days with completion scheduled for next January. Present plans call for the construction phase of all 30 local Showcase facilities to be completed by late 1963.

5 B'ham Residents On Navy Council

Five Birmingham men will be among the 55 charter members forming the new Southeastern Michigan Council of the Navy League of the United States at a reception and banquet at the Dearborn Inn March 22.

Frank G. Jameson of Glendale, Calif., National Navy League president, will present the council charter to Dr. Sidney E. Chapin, Dearborn, president of the new council.

Birmingham members are: William B. Clark, Dennis H. Frutiger, William T. Greig, John Lavrakas and John A. Parks, Jr.

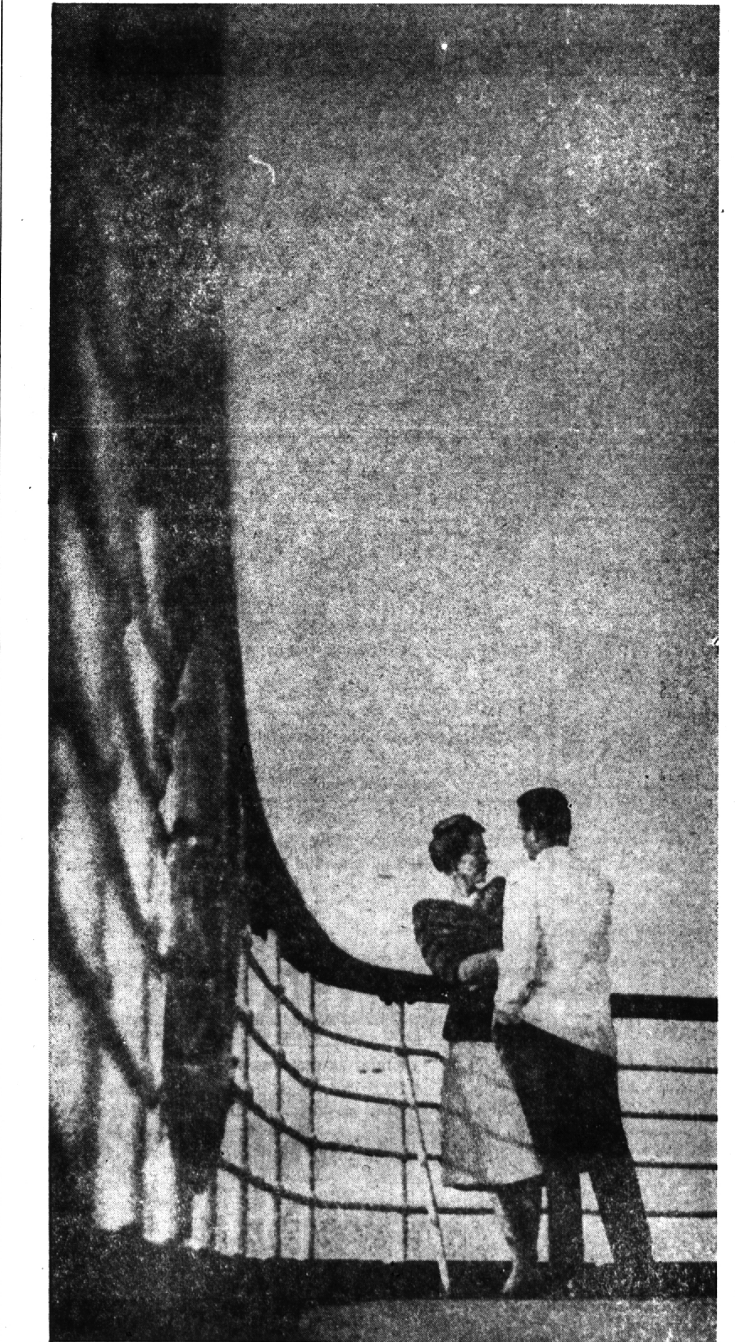
Speaker will be Commander George F. Moran, USN, who will discuss the development of the Navy's polaris missile program. Commander Moran is on the staff of Rear Admiral William F. Rabe, director of the Navy's Fleet Ballistic Missile Weapon Systems in Washington, D. C.

THE PURPOSE of the Navy League is to give civilian support to the Navy. At the local level, the new council will work closely with the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station, the Brothead Naval Armory, the reserve training centers, and the recruiting services. All adult male citizens not presently on active duty with a branch of the Armed Forces are eligible to join.

B'ham Exchange Club Celebrates 50th Year

The Exchange Club of Birmingham will celebrate its 50th anniversary at 8:30 p.m. March 23. George Stark will be the speaker followed by an entertainment program.

The Exchange's regular meeting on this date has been cancelled for the event.



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