

Classroom Key to America's Future

In the heat of late summer, the school stands empty. Silence pervades the halls and the classrooms. Yet, the empty school has a story of its own to tell. The Eccentric sent a staff writer out to get the story. His meditations follow.

By MIKE SKINNER
Staff Writer

In the classroom stands the challenge of America's future. It is here—among the desks and books—that our country's future leaders will emerge.

Will it be the boy with the checkered shirt by the window? Or will it be the under-sized youth with the thick glasses at the front of the room?

Or will it be the cute little girl with the fresh smile sitting by the display case window?

At this stage, students don't

know what the future holds for them. Yet one thing is certain—they are the future leaders of our country.

AS FUTURE leaders they face many pressures in high school, one of which is the outstanding need to impress others.

Athletics are a good way of achieving this. So is developing a muscular body that makes others proud. So is the desire to be called "cool," that is, highly popular with the opposite sex.

All these have their place but too often—and in the minds of too many youths—they become the dominate goals to achieve in high school.

When these do become a student's main object of achievement, much talent goes to waste. It is a mature individual who realizes the shallowness behind these goals.

FOR THOSE students, the ones who do want to make a success—the ones who want to lead America—these transparent social pressures are kept in their place.

They are replaced by the desire to succeed with knowledge gained through the textbook; the adult way.

Most significant acts require sacrifice and knowledge is no different. Knowledge means sacrifice for it means passing up some of the card and beer parties with the gang.

Yet, knowledge has something bigger and more sacred than all

the neighborhood parties combined! Knowledge has substance; it has richness and fullness. Knowledge has backbone.

ENOUGH AMERICANS in the past have been interested in knowledge and learning that our country has continued to move forward. But with each passing year these persons move upward on America's structural ladder.

The base must be replaced and it is here that America turns its eyes toward her youth.

"Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do

for your country," President Kennedy said. It is a line worth remembering.

THE SCHOOL doors open again Sept. 6 and this is when students will have another chance to further themselves and their country by learning.

Remember: America's future greatness depends on its base and its base depends on its youth of today. Do not disappoint her.

B'ham Schools Get Summer Polish Job

Two Birmingham Public School officials report that the buildings and grounds department has been busy with the renovation and cleaning of school buildings this summer.

Norman Wolfe, assistant superintendent in charge of the department, and James V. O'Neil, supervisor, said that over 500 rooms have been cleaned, 12,000 desks cleaned and repaired, hundreds of repairs have been made within school buildings and 32 acres of lawn maintained.

SOME OF THE buildings will have new roofs, sidewalks and chimneys, they said. Beverly and Quarton Elementary Schools have received an exterior coat of paint.

The Michigan State Boiler Inspector cleaned, repaired and inspected 33 boilers and all of the athletic fields, stands, gymnasiums and swimming pools will be ready for the opening of school.

New bleachers were installed at Seaholm High School and a new concession stand has been built for the Seaholm football field.

New Students Urged To Register Quickly

Students enrolling in Birmingham Elementary School for the first time should contact the elementary school closest to their home. Kindergarten children must be five years-old before Dec. 1, 1962.

First grade children must be six before Dec. 1, 1962. Further information may be obtained by calling Mrs. Elsie Dove, MI 4-9300, ext. 55.

All new students and returning students at Groves Junior-Senior High School may pick-up their schedules and pay their fees Aug. 27 through Aug. 31. Students who are out of town may register Sept. 4 and Sept. 5.

This new advance registration is taking place only at Groves as a pilot program to determine the advisability of advance registration on a system-wide basis in 1963-64.

PARENTS WHOSE children will be attending a Birmingham

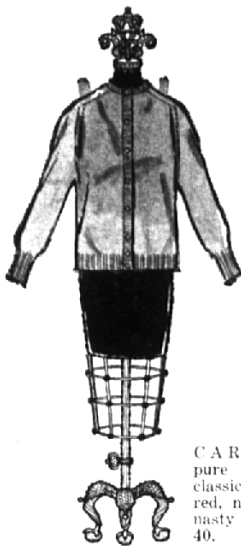


Getting started early with her studying is Judy Jesse, 695 Larchlea, Birmingham. It is classroom concentration like this that will produce the future leaders of America and spiral this country to even greater heights.



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