

Why Help Private Schools?

The plight of the public school system as regards finances is daily portrayed to the public via all the communication media.

It is further impressed on the homeowner's mind each December when he pays his property taxes, and biennially when it seems like he is being asked to vote additional millage for growing school costs.

Because of the publicity, public schools have been able to raise more money, locally and on the state level through school aid, and even federally through various grants and appropriations.

THIS INCREASED aid has enabled the public school system to raise teachers' salaries to a point where the average salary is almost double what it was 10 years ago.

It has enabled the public schools to equip their classrooms with the latest educational aids and allowed them to construct new buildings that are more efficient to operate.

Although the public schools are growing with the times because they are receiving more money, unfortunately all education is not in this category.

ALTHOUGH THE majority of children attend public schools, a large number do attend nonpublic, or private, institutions.

These schools have prided themselves in the past in offering what they feel is a better education, either because of smaller classes, more experienced teachers or a more well-rounded educational program, including religious instruction.

However, to keep this superiority they have had to keep up with the public

school advances but have not had the tax resources to finance their advances.

In institutions like our own Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills it has meant a series of tuition increases.

THE MAIN PROBLEM is that there is a breaking point in what a school can charge as tuition, and most schools have reached it.

Thus you have the background as to why Cranbrook School has announced a \$3 million development fund drive. And why you will see the other Cranbrook institutions as well as other private schools in the area following suit in the near future.

The people who have not been a part of the Cranbrook institutions either as students, parents of students or involved in the work of the schools, enjoy having a beautiful cultural setting as part of their community.

THEY PROFIT because such a group of institutions bring beauty, culture and stability to the community.

But often they take them for granted. Now with the announcement that one of these institutions needs help, our community has an opportunity to show its appreciation.

It is not just the responsibility of the alumni and friends of Cranbrook to contribute to the development drive.

It is the responsibility of everyone who receives a benefit from this institution to help it in its time of need.

And it seems to us in counting those who benefit, we would have to include everyone in our community.

How Motorists Can Help

Driving could be made much safer if motorists were to learn and use the proper procedures for coping with certain traffic problems.

For example: the use of turn signals some distance ahead of the place where they wish to turn.

This is especially true on Telegraph Road in Bloomfield Township, where left turns are a major cause of accidents.

Too many people wait until they are ready to start turning before switching their indicators on—and then it's too late.

There are other ways in which motorists can help.

They can facilitate the flow of traffic by utilizing the best method for parking and unparking—especially in congested areas.

IN BIRMINGHAM, tandem parking has been recently put into effect on Maple between Brownell and Chester and on Martin between Pierce and Bates.

In this system, two cars are parked front bumper to rear bumper, with a 10-foot prohibited area between each set of two parking spaces. This prohibited area is to be used for entering and leaving the parking stalls.

Two factors are involved in negotiating the tandem type of parking, the skill of the driver and the size of the car.

In most cases, drivers will find that it is much more convenient to turn to the right and pull directly into the stall, then back up if need be to complete the parking movement.

However, drivers of larger vehicles may

find that they must pull parallel to the vehicle ahead, then cut and back in, with the rear bumper lining up with the sign at the curb that reads "Rear Bumper."

Coming to a full stop at intersections where there are flashing red arrows or signs that read "Turn right on red" is an important safety factor.

Two intersections where it is extremely important to stop before turning on the flashing red arrow are Woodward-Oak and Woodward-Adams.

At these corners, motorists must stop when the red arrow is flashing—and then may proceed with the turn if no traffic is moving through on the green light.

The arrow merely indicates the direction that the driver may turn; it is not a substitute for a green light.

With the arrows and the signs, the motorist must still yield the right-of-way to the traffic that has the go signal.

AT WOODWARD and Lincoln in Birmingham, southbound drivers in the far right lane must turn right—they cannot go straight ahead.

On the other hand, vehicles on the left must continue right on through and proceed south on Woodward—they can turn neither right nor left.

THESE ARE some examples of what drivers can and should be doing in order to make driving safer. As it is in civic matters, the best-informed citizens accomplish the most.

Let us have better-informed, safer drivers.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Within the past few months several Latin America small countries have been "taken over" by coup d'etat methods of each's military forces. They include Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras. These "takeovers" are "bad news" for the Kennedy Alliance for Progress. Money alone can never enthroned the democratic processes—education of the mass of a people, given honest and capable leadership, can help a primitive or backward nation to evolve toward self-government.

Too, the rich and corrupt few in control of a government must be outlawed. A nation's natural resources, chiefly land for agriculture, must be made available to the people; exploitation of the many by the few must be eliminated.

The late dictator Trujillo of the Dominican Republic had a personal yacht that cost 10 million dollars. It now is being offered at the knock-down

price of only two million. Just think: that yacht came from the backs and meagre pocketbooks of the enslaved Dominicans during the 30-year despotism of the man who owned the yacht. Eventually, less than two years ago, dictator Trujillo met the fate of most all such tyrants: death by murder.

A Detroit high school principal, Ben S. Chinitz, recently declared that too many parents are more concerned with the prestige of their children by sending them to college than with the children's eventual welfare. "Job snobs" has been the phrase described for too many youngsters who get jobs for which they have no training or aptitude. Chinitz urged parents to influence their noncollege-bound boys to embrace one of the skilled crafts... even though they get their hands dirty. Sound advice, Mr. Chinitz very sound advice!

A Free, Responsible and Aggressive Press Is Democracy's First Line of Defense

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PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Signed Statements Not Way To Enforce Fraternity Law

To the Editor:

This is a copy of a letter, dated Sept. 25, I sent to the Birmingham Board of Education:

This is to acknowledge receipt of the following items:
1. Your letter of September, 1963, to parents.
2. A copy of the pertinent provisions of Chapter 28 of the Michigan General School Laws relating to fraternities, sororities and secret societies.
3. A statement to prohibitive membership to high school fraternities, sororities or secret societies, to be signed by the pupil and by the parent or legal guardian.

I HAVE NOW had an opportunity to study the above materials carefully and have a reasonably good understanding of them. With regard to the legality of fraternities, sororities or secret societies in public schools, there can be no question; the statutes make it very clear that these organizations as defined there and participation in their activities in any way is unlawful. It is also clear that each board has the duty to prohibit the organization and operation of such organizations within the school systems, with penalties to be imposed on any official who

knowingly fails to meet this responsibility.

THE REAL problem facing the board seems to be that of finding a method of carrying out their duty to prohibit these unlawful activities which is not only effective, but is also fair, just and democratic.

The procedure presently being followed, namely, (1) demanding, as a registration requirement a statement from students and parents that they will not unlawfully violate or knowingly permit or consent to violation of the statute in question and (2) announcing that the pupil will also be required, as a condition of receiving credit, promotion or graduation, to sign a similar statement at the end of the school year indicating the fact that he or she has not violated such statute at any time during the school year, leaves much to be desired.

I HAVE always been under the impression that compliance with all the laws, to the best of one's ability, was a responsibility and privilege afforded all citizens and that they were assumed to be in compliance in the absence of evidence to the contrary. Singling out one particular chapter of one particular set of laws and requiring a statement

of intent to comply with it seems to ignore the many other statutes in the school laws and other laws which impose other important responsibilities on parents and pupils alike.

The statement to be signed by the student at the end of the school year indicating the fact that he or she has not violated a particular statute certainly borders on unconstitutionality in the area of self-incrimination.

While such a statement technically cannot result in self-incrimination because no "crime" is involved, there is little, if any, difference in the principles involved.

RATHER THAN being fair, just and democratic, the procedure of requiring such statements tends to be high-handed and coercive in nature and because of the principles involved, neither I nor my daughter have signed any statement.

The statutes in Chapter 28 provide no penalty for refusing to sign such statements, but it provides only that "It shall be illegal to give credit for a subject pursued, to promote from grade to grade or to graduate any person who shall knowingly violate the provisions of this chapter, or having violated it shall persist in its violation." (See LAW, 5-B)

'Speak for Yourself,' Writer Tells M.M.D.

To the Editor:

M.M.D. wrote to your paper on the subject of children's lack of respect for their elders. The writer was indulging himself (herself) in an orgy of self-analysis in which he or she generously included me and all local parents of all school children.

Most of us will, I'm certain, resent this generosity since it is the result of very obviously limited intelligence regarding the facts. M.M.D. may be a virago of a mother or a job of a father; and misery does enjoy company, we know, but a gratuitous insult from an ignorant person is likely to be dangerous if at all widely read.

A SUGGESTION to your paper would be that you publish a monthly chart of all teen-age infractions that are publicly recorded during that month and keep a running comparison available between the total numbers of infractions and the total population of school age of the communities you serve.

The above information would serve to enlighten the M.M.D. of each community as to the relative unimportance in size of the minority of school-age children to which his (her) own belong.

M.M.D. attacks the mediocrity of our teachers and their sloth. It would be fascinating to poll the

M.M.D. element of our communities to see how much money they would be willing to add to their tax burden to procure the excellence in teachers that only money can buy.

M.M.D.'s are inevitably everywhere, and their children seldom respect them. We hope that they remain in the small minority of our neighbors.

P.S. If the M.M.D. faction is much better informed than most of us on the heinous performance of our teens via their parents, then the above-mentioned charts will inform all of us in a very important manner and give us all some new hostilities to air.

Suburban Income Tax Called Unjust

To the Editor:

The suburban income tax is a grave injustice since the suburban family at home doesn't share any of the benefits of the urban family of a nonproperty taxpayer. It is a tribute exacted by urban politicians for doing business in the city.

Any purchase or lease automatically includes a property owner's (See TAX, 6-B)

Yesteryear Happenings

50 YEARS AGO

Oct. 17, 1913

One of the interesting and pleasant things that will be long remembered by the people of Birmingham and vicinity, will be the unveiling and dedication of the Oddfellows monument which will take place at Roseland Park Cemetery, Sunday, Oct. 16, at 2:30 o'clock p.m. The ceremonies of this occasion will be under the auspices of the Grand Lodge officers of Michigan, and all I. O. O. F. Lodges and all Rebekah Lodges are earnestly requested to be present. The general public are invited to attend. There will be fine band music and quartette singing, and some speaking.

No, dear reader that is not a totem pole in front of the residence of D. Webster Bray. That is what is left of a strong and sturdy Maple after the wind got through with it one day last summer, and the D. U. R. men got after the remains, and what you now inquire about is what they left after getting ready to take the tree down. Why they never finished, we do not know. We excuse you. You are not the first one who thought it was a totem pole brought from Alaska.

Next Friday night from 5 until (See HAPPENINGS, 8-B)

Eccentricities

By HANK HOGAN

The First Lady of our nation has spent the better part of this month country-hopping aboard the 200-plus-foot yacht of Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis.

Her companion has not been the First Man of the nation, but her sister Lee.

As First Lady, Jackie Kennedy has done a tremendous job in bringing goodwill to our nation and the office of President.

Her trips abroad have done much to show the people of the world that America is made up of human beings, and fairly attractive human beings at that.

But her present jaunt will do much to tarnish this image she has created.

ONASSIS HAS an international reputation as a sort of wealthy pirate. He represents to the less fortunate people on the continent everything that is wrong with possessing a dollar.

His cruises are the favorite of the international society jet set.

In steps girl next door Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy from a small town in Massachusetts called Hyannis Port. And a person is known by the company he or she keeps.

With this clean-cut gal who represents the new America is her sister who uses the title "Princess," which flies in the face of our nation, having been built on the principle of government by the people and not the aristocracy.

With every picture of Jackie printed in the foreign press, there is also a picture of royalty trailing behind. Add to this that the First Lady is travelling sans husband.

THE COMPLETE PACKAGE adds up to the fact that the Kennedy image-making machine goosed.

The Romans said that Caesar's wife must be above reproach. It's a position of good slogan for our country. Our First Lady should have been smarter than to put herself in a position which can't help but hurt our national image.

It is hard to lead the life of a politician's wife, but it is too bad that Jackie's cruise wasn't postponed until 1968.

City Beat

By KEN WEAVER

You can't expect to maintain dignity while traveling with small children.

So said a friend of ours during a vacation visit a couple of years ago.

His words came hauntingly back on a recent four-day trip to southwestern Michigan.

Experts say, provide toys to keep the kids entertained in the car.

So Mom fancied up a shoe box of little toys each for Laurie and Jeff. Before we were out of Detroit they were fighting to get the other's box.

The end result: Toys strewn all over the floor. They derived more pleasure—and kept quiet longer—by fitting a deck of cards into an old Band-Aid box.

EXPERTS SAY, stop every hour in order to break up the trip.

We ended up making five stops and a trip that usually can be driven in three hours took five.

A stop that included a candy bar brought on for a drink and that required another for you know what. Experts say, take along a lunch and eat at a roadside table.

We went to restaurants. And it got to the point that when we entered one we felt as if someone had called ahead and said we were coming.

The hostesses and waitresses seemed to be saying, "Get ready; here come the Weavers."

TO LAURIE and Jeff, the restaurants were a place to have a ball. This was recreation time.

They played with the little packages of sugar, the menus, the salt and pepper shakers, the silverware and anything else they could get their sticky little hands on. And they didn't eat the food, except for French fries dripping with catsup.

Jeff's going to be a ballplayer. This I know. He practices his throwing in the restaurants—throwing food.

YOU'VE EATEN those candy Lifesavers? They turned out to be our life-savers. Laurie kept quiet by eating hers—Jeff by licking each one and then throwing it around the highchair tray.

Then there was the motel. Here we had fun. Ha. There were two double beds in our room, and a crib was brought in for Jeff.

Getting the kids settled down posed a problem. Jeff wanted to stand in his crib and turn on the TV; Laurie kept climbing out of her bed to go to Jeff and tell him to quiet down.

In the mornings, Jeff awoke with the birds and proceeded to wake the rest of us. Mom and Dad never did catch up on sleep until returning home.

THERE WERE accidents on this journey, too. Jeff fell off the merry-go-around at the motel and banged up his cheek.

He slipped on a cement step and scratched up the back of his legs. Laurie caught her finger in a screen door. She tripped over a can and cut her knee.

DID I SAY something about dignity? What's that when it comes to traveling with a three-and-a-half-year-old and a two-year-old?

Some downtown areas have the traffic so well regulated that you can drive almost as fast as you can walk.

Senator Morse says the nation must face the race issue. He's right—and if it doesn't, the nation will lose face.

