

# See Creativity In a Messy, Rude Student

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Time was when a youngster who was messy, stubborn, rude and lazy was apt to be heckled at home and scolded in school.

But this is the new age of research. And research says the messy, stubborn, rude and lazy youngster may be just the type the nation needs. He may be creative.

Look at it this way, say the researchers: what, you would normally think of as messy, stubborn, rude and lazy may not be MSRL at all to the youngster involved. In fact, to him MSRL may be a higher type of order, logic, courtesy and activity.

IT'S QUITE possible, they say, that the creative youngster may actually need to be MSRL in order to be creative. It may be tough on parents and teachers but the creative youngster might need a certain amount of mess around him if he's to delve deeply into the things that fascinate him.

And his rudeness may mean he's thinking, and therefore inattentive to the social amenities. And thinking does not have to be done at a school desk. The brain can work while the body is flat and the eyes are closed.

E. Paul Torrance of the University of Minnesota who has conducted extensive studies to determine creative characteristics of young children believes they prefer to learn, not by authority, but in creative ways in which they can explore, manipulate, question, ex-

periment, and test their ideas.

HE HAS also found that stubbornness—an indifference to the ideas of others—is one of the most pervasive characteristics of creativity. But parents—and teachers, too—have demanded that children learn by authority and have tried to overcome stubbornness.

In a recent booklet published by two units of the National Education Association, Dr. Torrance reports the results of a survey in which more than 1,000 teachers listed characteristics they valued highly in their students.

Stubbornness came in 30th.

"FROM THE results," he says, "it would appear that it is more important to teachers in the United States that their pupils be courteous, do their work on time, be energetic and visibly industrious, be popular and well liked

by their peers, be receptive to the ideas of others, be well rounded and be willing to accept the judgments of authorities than to be courageous."

And parents think the same way, he says.

"Obviously, such a pattern of values is more likely," he concludes, "to produce a people ready for brainwashing than one able to resist it and to think creatively."

HE SUGGESTS that teachers—and by implication parents—relax their authoritarian ways by making assignments which call for original work and by asking questions which call for original answers—not just the 'right' answer.

He says youngsters' unusual questions and ideas should not be dismissed out of hand. And their attempts to do things in a different way should not be stunted.

## Older Students Picked Up First By S'field Buses

Bus runs for Southfield schools will begin about 7:15 a.m.

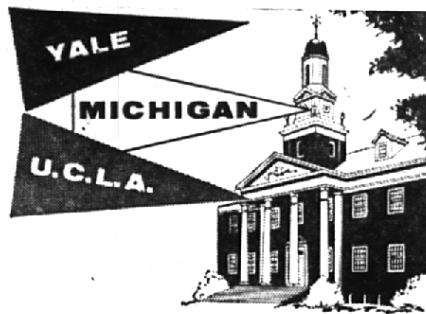
First to be picked up are the high school students. Classes for them begin at 7:45.

Next are junior high students. Bus pick-ups for them begin at 7:45; classes, at 8:15.

FOR ELEMENTARY students

there will be two runs for most buses—the first, in most cases, will begin about 8:15; the second, about 8:35. Classes in the elementary schools will begin at 9 a.m.

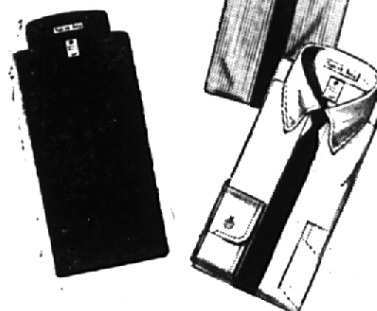
Any questions regarding routes and pick-up for the Southfield schools should be directed to Mrs. Ila Ocheltree through the Southfield Board of Education.



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