

Optimist Club Honors Youth at Breakfast

Forty seven outstanding student representatives were honored by the Birmingham Optimist Club at a Youth Appreciation breakfast at Greenfield's Restaurant last Wednesday.

These students were selected from their respective schools to represent the large majority of average youngsters who do an outstanding job in the community, but seldom with any recognition.

Also attending were 85 parents of the honored students, 25 school city and community leaders among them Dr. John Blackhall Smith, superintendent of schools; L. E. Gare, city manager and Robert Kenning, assistant city manager.

THE GOVERNOR and lieutenant governor of the Optimist

Counties to Share In Federal Funds

The apportionment of federal matching funds for construction on state and county secondary roads was announced recently by State Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie.

Mackie said Michigan will receive \$8,219,592 in federal funds for secondary road construction during the fiscal year starting next July, an increase of about \$50,000 compared to the current fiscal year.

THE STATE Highway Department will retain approximately 29 per cent of the funds or \$2,981,553 for use as its secondary system.

The state's 83 counties will receive \$5,410,245.

Each county road commission must match the federal funds on a 50-50 basis and they may be used for construction purposes only. The money is allocated to the counties on the basis of land area, population and road mileage.

Wayne County will receive \$668,852; followed by Oakland, \$236,182.

Michigan District and 25 local Optimist members were in attendance.

Representatives from the secondary schools in the Birmingham district who received honors were:

- Barnum: Roger Bird, Susan Chamberlain, Mike Hilkene, Constance Hanna, David Posther and Frances Seiler.

- Berkshire: Marc Bergeron, Martha Burger, Carl Christensen, Karen Gullberg, Linda Kopka, Diane Taraska and Michelle Vanderheyden.

- Brother Rice: Greg Gromek, Patrick Fresham, Terry Finn, James Hurwell, Richard Kreuz and Tom Scheerer.

- D'Arby: Steve Bethel, Chris Lahti, Barbara Miller, Dick Frisley, Lynne Woodson and Sarah Winkler.

- Groves: J. D. Bartleson, Betsy Bates, Ken Callis, Tom Hampson, Gal Hooverson, Dori Kennedy, Richard White-man and Diane Woodsum.

- Marian: Sue Anne Gilmore, Patricia Glynn, Linda Gibson, Kathryn Ladole, Mary Sharon McDaniel, Leslie Mader, Anne Nemetz and Debra Nolan.

- Seaholm: Ann Buser, Bill Canning, Barbara Hall, Kathy Kennedy, Bill Meeske and Carl Swanson.

The guest speaker for the program was James M. Brown, currently educational consultant for the Mott Foundation and retired Dean of Men, Eastern Michigan University.

The Birmingham Optimist Youth Work Committee members who conceived and spirited this first annual program were Oscar Link, Dick Straits, Robert Johnston, Larry Sauvage and Don Martin. They were assisted in the project by all other Optimist members and school principals.

There are about 430 medical journals, aggregating over 100 thousand pages a year.



HONORING STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
Optimist Club members, local leaders and parents at breakfast for area teens.

A Smile's the Same In Any Language

By RUTH VOGT
Special Writer

ROME—Naturally, the ideal situation, when visiting another country, is to be able to communicate in its language.

However, are all doors closed to a traveler whose ability to speak other tongues is limited to English? Indeed, they're not.

One learns quickly to drag up the oldest "language" known to man; that is a smile. Amazingly, this approach smooths relations remarkably well.

Another technique soon acquired is to watch carefully the mannerisms used. If gentleness becomes second nature while away from home, a visitor is not a stranger anywhere.

OF COURSE, when their few phrases of "good morning," "good night" and "how are you?" as well as "thanks" are learned, they are pleased.

Something quite odd occurs when one isn't speaking all day long. It gives opportunity to observe, to listen to those who are. Gradually, real-life people emerge from this quiet study.

"They aren't any different than we," is the sudden realization. Relying on a smile and careful manners, the eyes of people read the language read daily. It's from the two "windows of the soul" that are watched as communication is attempted.

THROUGH THESE means one begins to wonder if we don't spend a great deal of our waking hours in using verbal words in order to cover up exactly what we mean

Suggests Ways To Make Math More Interesting

The mathematics courses offered noncollege-bound students in high school are generally a rehash of everything that has bored and frustrated them for eight years, according to a mathematics expert.

Dr. Max Sobel, professor of mathematics education at Montclair State Teachers College in New Jersey, in speaking to 300 Oakland County teachers suggested some ways of enlivening math for students who had proven lack of interest or ability in the subject.

Learning to use a slide rule for simple multiplication and divisor problems gives the mathematically inept a kind of a status symbol, Dr. Sobel pointed out.

Finger multiplication is something new to learn while reviewing old mathematical facts, he said. Dr. Sobel demonstrated multiplication by 9 by holding up the fingers of both hands. He counted to the number he wished to multiply by 9 and turned down that finger. The number of fingers on the left of the turned-down finger is the tens figure; the number of fingers on the right is the ones figure.

ANCIENT METHODS of computation, patterns of numbers and other number bases introduced with drama, suspense or humor, he predicted, will re-awaken the interest of students who have resigned themselves to being mathematically hopeless.

Smaller classes, Dr. Sobel emphasized, are essential if teachers are to find out whether students are making consistent mistakes and to provide individual teaching helping to correct consistent errors.

Dr. Sobel was featured speaker in a conference on improving mathematics instruction sponsored by Oakland Schools. The conference was held on the campus of Oakland University.

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