

Daniels Den

By EMORY DANIELS

Mail Strike Sparks War

The walkout of letter carriers last week marked the beginning of a large scale war between the Den and a history book club in New York.

It is only a love of history that has encouraged the continued association with this organization because, like most book clubs, this one is operated and managed solely by computer.

THE WAR BEGAN, when the computer decided it was time to mail the Den his monthly selection of books, including the IBM card which is to be sent back should the March selection not be desirable.

The computer killed the IBM card, and, unaware of current events, righteously assumed his message reached my mail box.

Next week, when the IBM card is not fed back into this creature, the computer will assume again I desire the March selection and send an order to the shipping department for delivery of "Why Greeks Can't Read."

The next day, my computerized servant will send another message to the billing department ordering a statement be sent out. Next month, an overdue statement will be sent, and before long the devil will be gambling my wages and foreclosing on my house.

I WOULD LIKE to tell him about the mail strike but, through past experience, know

there is no line of communication open.

But this too, through ignorance, is making a lot of assumptions about what ends up in my mail box and it will take forever to untangle his troubled mind.

The computer, of course, is not set up to handle a mail strike. Human operators have not programmed a mail strike into his memory bank because it is illegal for mailmen to strike.

And so while the entire City of New York is at a standstill my computer friend is merrily doing his thing in his most putrid fashion.

What worries me is that banks are computerized, too, and I may lose my home and wages before finding out why Greeks can't read.

THE FUROR, at last Monday night's school board meeting over the attempt of an anti-war group to organize at North Farmington High was interesting, to say the least.

A letter read from a homeowner included a plea not to allow this "God-destroying" group of war protesters to organize.

If the author was an atheist, I've got no comment. But if the author is a Christian, does he really believe a group of young people opposed to war can possibly destroy God?

Maybe a god can be destroyed by war protesters, but not The God.

By BILL BROOKS

Living Opportunities, a national pilot program for the physically handicapped young adults in Farmington, keeps moving at a very slow pace. Why?

ONE REASON might be that this type of program is so new that no one really knows what the purposes of the program are or how the general public can become helpful.

What better way to help than for interested persons to come to Oak Hill Nursing Home, 3524 Grand River, and meet these young adults on a one-to-one basis.

Only then will the non-handicapped person be better able to break the so-called "communications gap" between himself and the handicapped person.

THIS COMMUNICATIONS gap also existed between the physically handicapped young adults and the staff of Oak Hill.

When the first members of the Living Opportunities program wheeled in Oak Hill's door in July 1969, it began an entirely new way of life for both the staff and young adults.

Here were four male young adults coming into a home which was established primarily

(Bill Brooks, a participant in the Living Opportunities Program, is a graduate of Central Michigan University with a B.S. in journalism. In this article, he reports on the national pilot program for the Farmington Enterprise & Observer. "As handicapped young adults, we deserve the right to try anything which will in any way aid us to become useful citizens," says Bill. "We are not asking the public for handouts. But we are hoping that society will aid us in trying to help ourselves."

"After all, we are all we've got!"

For the aged. How could these four follow rules set for the elderly and still retain some form of life that was normal for young adults? Also, how could they help the staff become aware of the young adults' needs and desires?

In August, four girls joined this program and presented new problems and ideas. Still the rules of Oak Hill were young people coming, these very rigid. But with more rules faced a severe test and many of them were discarded

to provide more freedom for the young.

WITH THE MANY "other problems" which this group had to try to solve, some means of transportation loomed as a greater barrier to them.

This barrier was partly removed by the Servi-Car of Royal Oak which provides a van and driver to take the young adults on trips and outings.

To provide members of the group with recreational activities inside Oak Hill, Bill White, a counselor in the Detroit Rehabilitation Center, was appointed by the Living Opportunities

board of directors to be social director. He also accompanies the group on all trips.

Judy Kimball, an occupational therapist from the Detroit Cerebral Palsy Association, comes twice a week to assist the group in making wood and leather projects. She also assists White in helping the group plan and make party decorations.

WITH ALL THIS activity, you might think we do not have time to become dissatisfied. This is not true. Being handicapped does not mean that some of us do not have goals and want to better ourselves.

For a few, this is beginning of a life of independence that hopefully will include having the opportunity to arrange our own lives. This goal may seem unrealistic. But in today's world, who can really say what is or is not possible?

We deserve the right to try anything which will in any way aid us to become useful citizens.

We are not asking the public for handouts. But we are hoping that society will aid us in trying to help ourselves. After all, we are all we've got.

READERS WRITE

Mail Strike's Sad Blot

EDITOR:

To be the best of my knowledge, there was no mail delivery in Farmington Township last Saturday.

Head Is Slanted

EDITOR:

The headline in your March 18 edition was definitely slanted. It is my opinion that you are to report the news only, not to influence your readers.

Any individual that has become involved with purchasing, selling or building a home can disprove all these big shot builders and developer's allegations.

Of course, apartment dwellers pay exorbitant rent which goes to some men who are consolidated as a company or corporation who in turn report their revenue loaded with

What a sad event in the history of this community!

Throughout my 60 years of memory as a rural resident and the memories of my father,

grandfather and great-grandfather on the same Farmington Township farm this is, I think, the first time the mail failed to "get through" for a reason other than weather and, indeed, rarely was it undelivered for that reason.

What a sad blot on the record of one of the finest and most dependable services ever devised, developed and refined in all the long history of civilization. No other society in the world has been able to emulate, or match it on the vast scale of this broad land.

What a sad commentary that, in our affluent society where never before have so many people had so much, this communication system must break down thereby threatening untold hardships on the elderly and general business disruption to all.

I wonder how we can justify this action to our men in uniform who are giving so much for such small pay. I wonder how we can justify it with the memory of the thousands of dead in the last four wars.

Enjoyed Article

EDITOR:

I enjoyed reading your article concerning the excellent presentation of Student Interest Day at Farmington's East Junior High School.

I would, however, like to correct one small error. I am a trial attorney with the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section of the Department of Justice. I am not with the F.B.I. The latter organization is composed primarily of investigating agents and is a branch of the department of Justice. My section is composed primarily of attorneys who prosecute cases against organized criminals and racketeers throughout the country.

Both of these organizations work closely together toward a common goal, but have their own distinct area of responsibility.

Sincerely,
JEREMY C. ZIMMERMANN
Special Attorney

32030 Valleyview Dr.
Farmington

Reliability

EDITOR:

You hear and read stories belittling the tradespeople.

Today, I had a very pleasant surprise that I would like to pass on to people who have had sad experiences.

This morning I called a sewer cleaning service in Redford. They came out in a little while and cleaned the blocked line outside the house of grease.

Then he said that since it was just over three months ago that I had called them before, they would consider this as still under their guarantee and there was no charge.

Three months ago the charge was \$16.

How much more reliable can you get? When they call guarantee they really mean it.

C.M. KING
32030 Valleyview Dr.
Farmington

when we came, at times, so near to losing our "rights" and freedoms to the tyranny of totalitarianism.

A priceless record has been blighted: a sterling tradition has been broken and we are all

a bit farther down the scale in setting high standards for our youth.

DONALD E. McCRACKEN
Farmington, Mich.

Support Helpful

EDITOR:

Your timely editorial is appreciated by the staff of the Farmington YMCA as it seeks to continue and improve its services to the Farmington Area.

The current effort for \$14,000 will be a success in providing youth programs in our community. The present response from homeowners is most convincing that Farmington youth are important.

We believe that people who care can make the difference in the lives of "the little guys."

DAVID R. COMFORT
Executive Director

Thanks Police

On Tuesday, March 3 at approximately 7:15 a.m. my wife slipped on the ice in front of our home and suffered a compound fracture on her left ankle.

Since I had already left for work, I was not present. The neighbors called the police who responded immediately to the call.

My wife says that she cannot thank enough the officers who treated her with kindness and handled her with extreme care. They placed her into the police ambulance and took her to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia.

Our sincere thanks to the Farmington police department.

H.K. HASKELL
Farmington

Earns Honors

FARMINGTON

Linda E. Thompson of 2765 Freepark, Farmington, a senior at Wheaton College, has been awarded semester honors for scholastic achievement during the first semester of the 1969-70 academic year.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Garfield H. Thompson. Semester honors are earned by students who carry 12 or more hours and average 2.2 grade points (3 is perfect) per semester.

Wheaton college is a coeducational liberal arts college 25 miles west of Chicago.

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By EMILY ORR, GR4-7499

Today is Easter and the wish for everybody is that the Risen Christ will bless all of us. "Happy Holiday" to everybody.

Some folks are always a bit ahead of their time for some reason or other. But last Saturday was the ideal day and very spring like and to no surprise, a hunt was held at one of the homes in Peppermill and there were at least 20 youngsters who went a hunting.

Pat McMann won the prize for the most collected while Julie Haggerty found the golden egg. While the kids participated in the hunt and treats the mothers of these youngsters enjoyed a brunch. They were Cynthia Lawrence, Marilyn Thurston, Carol McMann, Alice Scott, Sue Babcock, Carrie Marable, Marge Shields, Clara Haggerty, Gail Tinsley and Kitty Roach.

Corrine Leistikow had a birthday and she is now 11. On last Saturday there was a celebration in the home of her parents on Bayberry. It was a luncheon and games plus other activities. Those that sang "Happy Birthday" were their Lauren, Lori Eit, Amy Vandell, Karen Hilderbrand and Kim Dalton.

THE WOMEN OF NORTH FARMINGTON, had an enjoyable evening on March 17 in the Orchard Methodist Church.

Mrs. Martha Wiehorek, who is the hostess of the 18- and 19-Graduates, demonstrated how to make Ukrainian Pysanky (Easter Eggs). All those present went home with their dyed eggs.

The process was done with a stylus, beeswax, dye and raw eggs. Yes, there was some dropping of eggs but it was fun.

Also at the meeting election of officers took place. The new slate for 1970-71 is as follows: Peg Wright, president; Scotty Boivin, first vice president; Mary Rainigh, second vice president; Nina Stover, treasurer; Dorris Pullard, recording secretary; and Marianne Ormond, corresponding secretary.

Also tickets are now available for the annual card party which will be held in Our Lady of Sorrows April 23 at 8 p.m. Call Kay Werny on 626-7287 for tickets which are \$3.50. This affair is sponsored to raise funds for the New Horizons organization which trains and hires the handicapped.

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