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## DRIVE TO REDUCE ILLITERACY BEGUN; MICHIGAN IS 17th

Study Shows Astonishing Number Of People Who Cannot Read Or Write

Each member of the Committee on Illiteracy for the State of Michigan has received a letter from Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior and Chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Illiteracy, asking that he act with the National Committee in the intensive drive that is being put on for the reduction of illiteracy before the taking of the census which begins in April.

The National Advisory Committee on Illiteracy has made a careful study of the campaigns against illiteracy waged in many States.

It has, as a result of its studies, prepared and published a manual of 24 lessons, the completing of which will enable the average illiterate to read and write. This has already been demonstrated in several states. The manual will be furnished by the National Committee to any local organization at the cost of printing or a single copy will be furnished without charge and can then be printed locally.

According to the census figures of 1920, five million adults in the United States are illiterate. One out of every 14 people of voting age cannot read the warning sign on a poisoned well; cannot read "Do Not Smoke Explosive Near," cannot read "Danger Live Wire." One of every 10 people over 21 cannot write. The percentage of illiteracy in our country is greater than that in England, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark and Japan.

Michigan stands 17th from the top in percentage of total illiteracy and 19th from the top in percentage native white illiterates. There are 85,613 illiterates in Michigan of voting age. All but 2,433 of Michigan's 85,046 illiterates cast the ballot.

The number of illiterates increased in the State in the last decade.

In 1920 there were 88,046 illiterates.

In 1910 there were 74,800, an increase of 13,246.

The most illiterate county in

the State is Luce, and the least illiterate counties in the State are Eaton and Hillsdale.

There are 14,172 native white illiterates in the State. This is more than the native white illiterates of Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, New Hampshire, Montana, Nevada, and Arizona put together.

There are 8,900 more illiterate men than women in the State. Over half of Michigan's illiterates are under 44 years of age.

## FURS VALUED AT \$1,100 STOLEN FROM COMPANY

No trace has been found of the men who broke into the Walled Lake Fur Company office on Tuesday night of last week. Skins valued at about \$1,100 were stolen. The place was entered through a back window the glass of which was broken. The tracks indicated the furs had been carried from the warehouse to a car parked along the Maple road.

The loss included 70 coon skins, 5 mink, 100 muskrats, 5 skunk, 3 fox and 3 manufactured furs. No insurance was carried. A guard has been maintained all winter, but this was recently stopped.

The Orchard Lake police were reported to have noticed a Studebaker car going through that place with a load of gunny sacks which might have contained the furs, but there was no reason for the officers stopping them and they allowed them to pass.

## Cottage Entered

Seeing five boys leave his cottage at Bogie Lake as he arrived from his Detroit home, Thomas Capes of 2266 W. Euclid avenue phoned for Deputy W. E. Coe. When the officer arrived the boys had disappeared, and a bag of golf clubs was missing from the Capes cottage. After a short wait the boys, who ranged in age from 16 to 18, returned and were stopped by Deputy Coe. They finally admitted breaking into the cottage and taking the golf clubs. They returned the clubs and no arrests were made. The boys gave Detroit addresses.

## Boy Arrested

William Hall, a 15-year-old boy, who gave his address as Wyoming and Schoolcraft, Detroit, was turned over to Detroit police by

Deputy W. E. Coe on Thursday. The boy was loitering around the Novi School, which had been broken into the night before and the principal of the school called Officer Coe.

The lad told so many conflicting stories that he got all tangled up in his accounting of his actions, but he finally told Deputy Coe that he was on probation for having stolen bicycles and blankets on several different occasions.

## SCOUT EXECUTIVES

Miss M. Edgar, Girl Scout executive for Oakland County, accompanied by Mrs. C. Smith, chairman of the Pontiac Girl Scout committee, attended the meeting of the Walled Lake Girl Scouts on Monday evening. Four Walled Lake committee women were present and Miss Edgar explained the duties of the scout committee.

Mrs. Smith told of the girl scout camp near Lapeer. The ladies present were Mrs. H. L. Stoffel, Mrs. C. M. Hunter, Mrs. Stanley McBride, Mrs. E. S. Beckman, and Mrs. L. M. Philp. Plans are being made for a Mother and Daughter banquet to be held in the near future.

## CIVIC CLUB MEETS

Fifteen members and four visitors attended the meeting of the Civic Welfare club at Walled Lake at the home of Mrs. R. E. Rhoads on Wednesday. Several new members and many prospective members were reported.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. M. G. Post, Mrs. Clarence Bicking of Farmington, first president of the club, will be the speaker.

## P. T. A. TO ELECT

Annual election of officers of the Walled Lake Parent-Teacher Association will be held at the School on Tuesday evening, Mar. 28. The date was advanced because of a conflict with the date of the junior play which will be held on March 20.

No matter how important you are, in your own opinion, there are many people who think less of you.

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