

The Blue and White

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER URGES HIGHER STANDARDS

Bernard Matreial
On February 20 Superintendent O. E. Dunkelkeid issued a second superintendent's letter. His first letter, given out in September, dealt mainly with the desire for students to make every attempt to bring about a feeling between students and the office teachers and fellow students. His second letter deals with the desire to raise school standards.

The letter follows:
There is an organization of young people in our country which has this very significant motto: "To Make the Best Better." When you first see this statement no doubt you will wonder how such a thing can be done. Is it the "best" all that can be expected?

If we were certain that we have reached the highest point of achievement in any field of endeavor, our answer to such a question would have to be "yes." But experience teaches us that improvements are continually being made on what we had looked upon as being close to perfection. Each year, as we see the new models of automobiles with all their refinements, we find ourselves asking the question, "What next?" And each succeeding year the designer has an answer to our question. If the manufacturer of the first automobile had not believed that the best could be made better, we would not have seen the many improvements down through the years. Complete satisfaction with things as they are never leads to anything better.

Some time ago we read a copy of a little book entitled, "I Dare You." Its whole theme is a challenge which we would like to pass along to you—a challenge "to make the best better" in yourself. Too often we like to compare ourselves with another person and always it is someone with whom we can present a very favorable comparison. We dislike to think in terms of one who achieves more even though it might be possible for us to do so if we put forth a little more effort. What a different picture we would have if we used a higher standard of measure. Any achievement is high enough if our standards are low enough.

As we go into this second semester, we would like to throw out the challenge to you to raise the standards by which you judge your achievements. We dare you to make each day's work a little more successful, no matter how well you did the day before; to use the best of which you are capable as you face toward which you are working; to do a little more each day as a school citizen to "make the best better" in Farmington High School.

We will be glad to help you as you accept the challenge.
O. E. Dunkelkeid
Superintendent.

Junior High Girls Will Challenge Freshmen

To see who will be the intramural basketball champions of the Junior High girls, the seventh and eighth grades will play each other during their regular gymnasium classes. The winner of this game will meet the ninth grade girls team.

For extra practice the girls are having relay races.

How Are Your P's And Q's?

How do you rate with the rest of your crowd? Are you considered B. M. S. (big man around school) or P. G. A. S. (popular kid around school)? Maybe you need to brush up on your personality. Watch this section of the paper for a personality test next week.

Homemaking II

Class Room Notes
June Speck
The American literature classes have been studying stories and essays of the latter part of the nineteenth century. All of these stories have been instructive and entertaining. Most of the authors of this period were developing new features in stories. There were "local color" features and the realistic treatment of character.

In the twelfth grade, the literature classes have enjoyed pictures of the English lake district. This week the study of authors has centered around Wordsworth and Coleridge. After seeing some views of the lake district students understand Wordsworth's keen delight in nature.

In Miss Lunny's World History classes students have been studying

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ing the great art of the Renaissance period. They learned to identify art reproductions. Emphasis was placed on Michelangelo, Raphael and da Vinci.

Homemaking classes one and two are beginning their "Home Projects." Class one is starting a new unit on "Home Textiles" by studying the advanced group is working on a "Child Care" unit.

Grade News

CORRELATION OF SUBJECTS NOTICEABLE IN SIXTH GRADE

In history the sixth grade is studying the differences between the Christian and the Mohammedan religion.
This week the English class is correlating its study with Bible stories, such as "David and Goliath."
Marguerite Coe

FIFTH GRADE PUPILS BRING HOBBIES TO CLASS

The fifth grade had a little program Thursday in honor of Washington's birthday.
Several of the children brought their hobbies to school and presented them in a show. The variety of hobbies showed the wide interests of children of this age.
Nancy Robertson brought an exhibit of stones to class that she has collected from different parts of the United States.
The class saw an interesting show on "Wild Wings."
Marguerite Coe

SURPRISE PARTY GIVEN

The fourth grade planned a George Washington surprise party on the third grade.
The class made George Washington hats for their room. The hats had red pom-poms and painted stripes of red, white, and blue.
The children marched and sang a George Washington song. They also looked up stories and information on the life of George Washington.

The program was an impromptu one.
Zora Husted

MOVIES ENJOYED BY GRADE SCHOOL

The third grade enjoyed the movies that were given on safety and the one on birds, called "Wild Wings."
Mr. Dunkelkeid gave a talk which was enjoyed by the children.
In their reading, classes, the children act out plays. They are also reading about Africa.

Gym seems to be a favorite subject for them; they are learning the Shoemaker and Indian dances.
In addition to these activities they have music three times a week.
Zora Husted

KINDERGARTENERS FORM BAND

By Marion Champagne
The kindergarten began their work with the rhythm band last week.
Now that they have learned to print their names they are making numbers.

Question Box

This question box will appear each time this paper is published. Readers are requested to ask any worthwhile questions and send them to the Farmington High School, in care of the Journalism Class. They will also sponsor the open dance to be held in the gymnasium March 15.
Although a committee has been selected for the Junior-Senior Reception, no final date for the affair has been set.
Other committees have been appointed for arrangements concerning all junior events.
Janet Wack

EDITORIAL

Need of Friendship

Bullets, gunshots, bloodshed—the dread and fear of the crisis in Europe—all have the tendency to draw common people closer and closer together as they realize the need of friendship between nations as well as between individuals for true charity, happiness, and security.

What is this friendship? We can define friendship as being an attachment between people by esteem and affection, or just the state of being friends. No greater definition or quotation ever stated friendship better than God's own words in the Bible. "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends." There is no sacrifice too great to fulfill for a friend.

The basis of all friendships is love; love so sincere that it ever through our greatest difficulties it will glow within our hearts. Friendship is a reality that makes life on earth tolerable. It is the consequence of love.
We do not realize how new and influential a friendship can be until we find ourselves alone. Disappointment, despair, sorrow, unhappiness, and then the face of a friend! Cold may glitter before our eyes, riches can bring forth great appeal, but friendship brings a deep, heartfelt feeling which drives other feelings far into the background.

We can be friends even to those who do not like us. We can love those who will not return our love. Let us not fence those who would be our enemies, but rather let us understand them better.
If we are engaged in our duties each day, no matter what they may be, let us not be too busy to make an effort to find new acquaintances and still welcome our old friends. As each day goes by, certainly there is always someone whose burden is too heavy to carry alone.
A cordial welcome, a handshake, a letter, or even a smile will give happiness to the sorrowful and also fill our own hearts with genuine joy. Do we have friends who need us and whom we need in return?

God's rule is to love one another; why not find the true answer in each individual? Seek the good in each person, and you will find it. Forget hatred, prejudice, and bitterness. If we will begin today to live on a friendly basis, it will lighten the tasks of our daily lives.
By Viola M. Dierich

All Grades Sing

By Marion Champagne
The High School Trio and a Junior High Girls' Quartet have entered them in a show. The variety of hobbies showed the wide interests of children of this age.
Nancy Robertson brought an exhibit of stones to class that she has collected from different parts of the United States.
The class saw an interesting show on "Wild Wings."
Marguerite Coe

Student Council Mixes Pleasure With Work

Friday evening the Student Council members held a theater party at the Fox Theater.
The president of the Council, Keith Johnson, has been out of school during the last few weeks, because of illness.
The football banquet will be held soon, so don't give up hope, boys. A dance will follow in the gymnasium.
By Mildred Allen

Clubs

POSTER CLUB ACTIVITIES

After making 500 mimeographed handbills for the last basketball game and 1000 for the last P. T. A. meeting, the Poster Club is working on circulars for the Senior Prom.
Members have been studying various types of lettering.
This club is composed of students who are interested in the lettering, coloring, and composition of posters.
Mary Redding

Class News

SCHOOL ANNUAL NAMED

"Rollcall" is the name of F. H. S.'s newest publication. The seniors will be responsible for the editing of the year book. It will consist of individual senior pictures, complete and club pictures and pictures of all unusual events.
Sittings for the rest of the senior pictures will be March 5.

JUNIORS PLAN SPRING SCHEDULE

In order to meet the heavy expenses their spring activities involve, especially the Junior-Senior Reception, the Juniors will continue giving Wednesday noon dances. They will also sponsor the open dance to be held in the gymnasium March 15.
Although a committee has been selected for the Junior-Senior Reception, no final date for the affair has been set.
Other committees have been appointed for arrangements concerning all junior events.
Janet Wack

INSURANCE TAX PAID REGARDLESS OF WORKER'S AGE

Wage earners in their sixties are going to learn, sometime during the present year, that their employers are manifesting less interest in their age, according to Richard H. Hendrick, manager of the Social Security Board's field office at Pontiac. He explained that this is a result of the recent revision of the Social Security Act making old-age and survivors insurance taxes payable regardless of the age of the employee.

"Before the act was amended," Hendrick said, "an employer was required to turn in the taxes in connection with this system only until the employee was 65 years old. This tax, based on the worker's wages at a per cent each for employer and employee. After 65, the wages at which the worker might qualify for old-age insurance payments, his wages were not subject to the tax.

"The employer had to know when a man reached the age of 65, so that he could stop sending the taxes—his own and that deducted from the employee's pay to the collector of internal revenue.

"The revised law," he pointed out, "has removed this age barrier. Sixty-five remains the age after which a worker, whenever he chooses to retire, may claim his insurance payments. If he is qualified, but he now has the right to continue to accumulate wage credits in the years beyond that age, thus increasing, perhaps, the size of the monthly retirement checks that will go to him when he decides to retire. Since the taxes will continue to be collected as long as he is paid wages, regardless of his age, all the employer needs to know now is that the man is still on his payroll."

Shipping Predictions For Potatoes Changed

Following the cold wave that swept the southern states, federal-state inspection officials were forced to revise shipping predictions as regarding the movement of the remainder of the 1939 Michigan potato crop. During early January, according to Agricultural Commissioner Elmer A. Beamer, potatoes started to move in volume comparable with January, 1939, but following unseasonable weather in the south, shipments slackened off with shipments equivalent to 1,101 cars as compared to 1,388 cars last year during the same month.

Potato shipments have constantly lagged behind the 1939-39 shipping season, with the result that there are still many potatoes to move, despite the shorter crop. Potato producers apparently now are expecting that early potatoes will be late in reaching the markets from southern points, and

Literary Department

Worm's-Eye View

Very sleepily I crawl out of my hole into the bright sunlight. I have to get up pretty early to beat the early bird.

"Oh, boy. Some fun, just sliding along in the nice cozy mud. Hey! Wait! minute! That sounds like music!"

"Slippery, slippery, slippery. Guess I'll go eat worms. Big fat, juicy ones, little fuzzy wuzzie ones. My, but I love worms!"

The first one's easy, second's squeeze. The third one wiggles and squirms. Slippery, slippery, slippery. Guess I'll go eat worms.

"Uh-huh, my pal, the robot." A hasty retreat is next in line. "Under this leaf you go, worm, old boy."

A flutter of wings—then, "Who's that knocking on my door?" enters the squally room.

"It's only the bill collector, croons a gentle voice. One peep, and I see the bill yeh, the bill of Red, Red Robin! I sneak out the far corner and head for my hole.

"Put! Put! It is some rare, but I win by the width of a coat of paint! Gallantly I turn around and sing, 'I'm in my hole, don't forget.' "No, no, you can't catch me!"

After a nice long, dirty look, the robin flies away.

"Get whet! This world is getting to be a heck of a place to live in. You can't even take your morning exercise without getting stepped on, or picked up for bait, or taken for some bird's breakfast, or something—or—ya-w-n-z-z-z-z."

By Dorothy Fox, sophomore

SENIORS CHOOSE MOTTO, COLORS, AND SONG

By a recent vote the seniors decided to have as the class colors—Blue and Silver; motto—We finish but to begin; Song—We've gone along the way together, and follow—Rose.

Highlights & Sidelights



THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IS OWNED BY MILLIONS OF AMERICANS 7,770,000 INVESTORS, TEACHERS, LABORERS, BUSINESS MEN, PROFESSIONALS, STORE KEEPER, FARMERS, AND HOUSEWIVES.

THE PROBABLY MONKEY OF BORNEO SHOULD BE KEPT TO LOOK HIMSELF IN THE FACE. CONSIDER WITH HIS ATTEMPTING TO BEAT THE CLEVELANDER SQUAD OF CYCLOPS.

DE BEBERG AND SUPERB DANCING ARE MORE SURE BUTTONS.

THE WORLD'S FIRST COMMERCIAL OIL DRILLED IN 1859 BY COL. EDWIN DRAKE NEAR TITUSVILLE, PENNA.

CLEVELAND POLICE CHIEF INSPECTING SERGEANT ARTHUR ROTH'S DEVICE FOR DETECTING TONY BROWN VIEWED BY A SOBER PERSON, IMAGES (INSET) WOULD MERSE.

are probably holding, for higher records disclose 141 cars of apples inspected in January, 1940, compared to none the preceding year.

Inspection of beans under the co-operative program of the Department of Agriculture and Michigan Bean Shippers' Association showed an increase from 796 cars in January, 1939 to 827 cars during the past month. Total shipments of all inspected produce were equivalent to 2,874 cars, compared to 3,066 cars for the same month last year.

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