

Observer Newspapers

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Serving the rich Northwest Wayne County and South Oakland County Suburban markets with a group of affiliated newspapers in Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Redford, Garden City, Westland and the Township of Farmington, Farmington and Redford.

From the Publisher's Desk

OBSERVATION POINT

By Philip H. Power

All in all, I guess it was a pretty lonely Love-In.

Sad, too, like love is sometimes. And it all started so well.

Lotta people got together down at Belle Isle on Sunday afternoon. Maybe 3,000; maybe 6,000. Depends on which cop you talk to.

Some were hippies, whatever that means. "They sure dress funny," I heard one guy say.

Some were high school kids, from places like Grosse Pointe High. Out for a laugh, but drawn by something more appealing than just a joke. Something like personal freedom, maybe.

Some were people living out on E. Jefferson, who just happened to be over to the island. They were pretty quiet.

Not as many Negroes as you would have thought. Perhaps they weren't hip to that particular scene. More like they expected trouble.

Then there were the motorcycle boys, with a scattering of urban hoods. Some wine. More beer.

The motorcycle crowd looked as though they felt a little out of place. No one wanted much to give them flowers.

All these people, together with the agents of society (policemen, reporters, gully sociologists), coming together beneath the trees, tramping the soft soil into mud.

It was all pretty hairy.

Some people stood around, listening to the bongos and guitars, feeling a little embarrassed that they were fighting a Viet Nam.

"Man, I always sing," said one person to a long hair, but mostly people just wandered around, looking.

Some were loving.

A blond walked over to a mounted policeman's horse and kissed it gently on the nose.

The cop smiled.

Letters to Editor:

ANSWER TO JAMES F. O'NEIL, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Editor:

So we citizens are just "wringing our hands and cursing the darkness" about fiscal reform. Well, answer a question then, Mr. O'Neil.

I thought fiscal reform means just what the words imply. REFORM. Not necessarily an income tax, or an additional sales tax, or a new corporation tax, or a city income tax but REFORM OF THE EXISTING TAXES which would make them more equitable to us (as you call us) Mr. and Mrs. Individual Citizen.

We have been up to Lansing on several occasions during our level best to understand the workings of the legislature. I visited your department and was treated with the utmost respect, everyone went way out of their way to make sure we citizens at home BUT they were intended to listen to anything we might have to say to them.

As far as your department is concerned, it was quite evident that the State Board of Education decided the Community College issue without any regard for what Mr. and Mrs. Citizen wanted, needed or were willing to pay for. To pacify a powerful political bloc (Detroit) the State Board sold the 28 Western Wayne County and Downriver School Districts' graduating students "Down the river."

If and when the issue ever gets on the ballot, prove me wrong if you can.

As far as we citizens of the Wayne-Westland area are concerned (and your letter appeared in our paper so I presume you were directing it to us), our legislators, namely, Senator Faust and Reps. Timmer, Peltre and Young have displayed over and over again their deep concern for our problem, their compassion for our impossible position (school aid) and their willingness to work with us towards an equitable solution. I think you say as much.

You definitely voted against

SENSE and NONSENSE

Wayne County Prosecutor William Cahalan came up with an interesting statistic Thursday while addressing four service clubs in Westland. He pointed out that Detroit recorded 148 murders within one year. Of these, 130 were committed by relatives or friends of the victims and only 18 by total strangers.

Which goes to prove that with friends like that, who needs enemies.

It seems like the thousands who flocked to Belle Isle for the celebrated "Love-In" have love for everyone but the Detroit police department.

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LETTERS TO EDITOR:

No Discrimination at College

Editors:

In a story carried on page 16A of the April 26, 1967 Observer, it was reported that the following charges were made against Schoolcraft College by Marvin Gibson: (1) The school discriminates against Jews and Negroes (Mr. Gibson is Jewish and his charges imply that this is why his contract was not renewed); (2) the administration, faculty, and school paper boycotted a speaking engagement which he had arranged; (3) The school questioned his use of audio visual and programmed learning methods. It was further stated that Mr. Gibson has written letters to the Civil Rights Commission, The Civil Liberties Union, and the North Central Association requesting that action be taken against the school.

I am not in a position to speak for the school as I do not know exactly what the administration policies are. However, as a student at the college I was in a position to make observations from student level.

I am an adult (mother of five school-age children) and I have taken nine courses for a total of 31 credits at Schoolcraft College in the past 20 months. Most of my teachers were excellent, a couple satisfactory and one seemed incompetent as a teacher. This one was the Mr. Gibson mentioned in the article. I had signed up for his evening class because I would not need a sitter at that time. However, after attending two sessions (three hours each) it was apparent that it would be a waste of time to continue the class under such a poor teacher. I told the counselor at the school why I wanted to drop the class and was transferred to a daytime class.

As far as Mr. Gibson's charges are concerned: (1) If there has been any discrimination, it has not been apparent to me. True, the number of Negro students is small but the percentage of Negroes living in the Schoolcraft district is small. Those who do attend are — to the best of my knowledge — treated no differently than any other student.

(2) I assume Mr. Gibson is referring to the speaking engagement of Mr. Boyce, a Negro professor from Wayne University. I was told of the event several times in my classes and it was also in the daily bulletin more than a few times. The basis for this charge, like the first, was not apparent to the students.

(3) Personally missed the speaker because it conflicted (time-basis) with my other classes.

(4) This third charge concerning instructional tools is hard to believe since almost

every teacher I had made use of some type of teaching aid. They have used overhead projectors, movies, records, and programmed learning. It seems that the teachers are free to use that which they feel is beneficial to the students and that of which are presented might even be classified as controversial.

As I said, I am not speaking for the college... I do not know why Mr. Gibson's contract was not renewed by the administration. However, it seems that Mr. Gibson has been offended and is seeking a very childish means of retaliation.

Human rights and civil rights must be observed — but the rights of those who wish to learn must not be sacrificed solely to keep the incompetent employed.

Roberta Campbell Redford Township

Disagrees With Letter Writer

Editor:

After reading Mr. Kindred's letter, I feel obligated to defend the YMCA and its concept. I believe the object of the YMCA is fellowship regardless of race, color or creed. As to a meditation room being devoid of religious symbols or texts, people can worship God in an empty room because it is a spiritual matter. How many religious services have been held on a battlefield with the people still feeling the same as being in a church or Temple.

In regards to the word marriage being left out of the Sex Educational Program in Livonia called "Human Growth and Development," I disagree. Both my children have just completed Sex Education programs. My son had the Human Growth and Development Program in the elementary school and my daughter in Junior High had a course offered by the YNCA. Both were excellent and both mentioned marriage. I questioned them both on this. Also, it was stated at the beginning of this program that the moral, religious and social aspects were to be taught in the home which my husband and I hope to accomplish.

Mrs. Richard Slack Livonia

Enough of Kindred Open Letter to George:

Considering the fact that we have been friends and neighbors for several years, the following is written with much reluctance:

First we are fed up with your "spouting off" in the local newspapers, our Civic Association publications, on TV and radio programs, at meetings in our schools and City Hall, and of having your radical newspapers delivered throughout our neighborhood. As conscientious and, we hope, fairly intelligent adults, we are aware of the fact that you seem to be unhappy with the community in which you live. We are aware of your "sanctified mentality." Entitled, though you may be, to your own opinions, your controversial attitudes are not appreciated since they only hinder — do

OBSERVING the Scene ...

By MYRA CHANDLER

Like we've said no mother can protect her children when lightning comes from the sky and strikes them dead. We can teach them not to stand under a tree and to come in out of the storm. Basics. But we cannot protect them from an emotionally disturbed person who is triggered into rape, murder, destruction.

Often what we can do with this type of threat to our innocent young we do not.

We can care, take an interest, and fight like tigers for more help for emotionally disturbed children. We can fight for better laws to protect our young against this prevailing sickness.

For instance if we know there is a disturbed child in the neighborhood and the parents are not cooperative — it can now be reported to the school. The school can and should take the matter up with the delinquent parents, doing every thing it can to encourage the parents to take the child to one of the agencies serving our local communities. Northwest Child Guidance Clinic, on Marxman in Garden City; Hawthorn Center in Northville Township; or the new emergency Guidance Clinic at Wayne State Hospital in Wayne.

However, if the parents refuse — and no amount of persuasion will convince them — under our present law, unless the child commits a crime, there is nothing that can be done. It is not like smallpox or TB, where the law steps in and demands quarantine. And yet mental illness is just as damaging. This is a matter to take up with our local legislators.

Solme Torma, Director of the Northwest Child Guidance Clinic tells me, if parents are approached right, more often than not, they will cooperate and bring the child with odd behavior in and come themselves for guidance. Strangely enough the recommendation usually has to come from a school or pastor. Perhaps because the parents find it too difficult to accept the fact their child is not adjusting.

There are many pressures on kids today — even the preschooler. If it isn't always in a home without love, either, that these pressures manifest themselves in strange behavior.

It is my theory that ever since we discovered the tool for total destruction of ourselves it has done something to us as a world of people.

It almost seems as though our young were looking for self-destruction. Many are not able to cope with the unseen force, the unsaid word — that any time the world could be blown apart by man himself. Hiding under the covers is not enough anymore.

In any case there is something disturbing our young. Northwest, still struggling financially, now has a staff of seven full-time case workers and two part-time to work with these troubled children and often times troubled parents. They see 32 new cases every month and are concerned about 248,000 school children — many, many feel they should, and are not, getting proper mental help.

The Clinic is open every Saturday morning and now stays open on Monday night. The fee is on a sliding scale and no child will ever be denied service for financial reasons.

In order to further encourage parents, who know in their hearts they have a problem with their child, or a neighbor who might bring the matter to a friend or neighbor's attention, the Clinic is starting an information bureau. They will send informed speakers out to church groups, PTA, service clubs to explain the Clinic, what can be done to help — to get these kids off glue sniffing and back to using it to make airplanes. Call Director Solme Torma, GA 5-6110 for information.

At least it is a positive approach to diverting the lightning stroke of death of the emotionally disturbed.

The clinic takes care of all children, including preschoolers to 18 years of age. The emergency clinic at Wayne State is set up for the 5-year-olds through 18. Don't feel you are being a nosy neighbor if you report a case you know of to the school. You wouldn't feel like a nosy neighbor if you saved the life of a child.

For protection of yourself and your teens (both boys and girls) the Livonia Family Y is offering courses in Judo. The mothers can learn this — and efficiently. Judo strength is no criterion. In fact both Don Dinwiddie, program director, and Chuck Wisa, Executive Director, say the 10-12 Junior High kids make the best pupils. Different muscles are used in this Japanese form of self-protection than American kids are accustomed to using.

This is a most worthwhile form of protection and in case of emergency could throw an attacker off guard long enough for a child to run for help.

Call 261-0370 if you are interested in the details and ask for either of the above two Y directors.

Let us do everything we can as parents to assist in curbing this sickness that seems to have struck the youth in the destructive 60's.

Do You Suffer From Vitamin E Deficiency?

From a leading magazine — Dr. Shute of London, Ontario, expert in the use of Vitamin E, says:

"Virtually everyone in the western industrialized countries is deficient in Vitamin E. This is because the foods we eat have the vitamins pressed right out of them until there is nothing left but a stomach filling nutritionalless blob!"

Nina Parker

In a study conducted by experts and supported by U.S. Public Health Service Grant No. 30-05, it is shown that many men and women are actually suffering Vitamin E deficiency and that such deficiency may have serious deleterious effects on the enzyme processes of the body that affect the total metabolism.

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