

Tree-planting project enthuses Longacre

By DIANE HUBEL
When the parents and students at Longacre school do something they do it right.
When the school held their first annual "Beauty Your Neighborhood School" day May 4, the response was so overwhelming that by the end of the day 90 trees had been planted on the school grounds.
Steinkopf's nursery, which handled the arrangements for buying the trees was so pleased with the response that they decided to donate a tree to the school. Their tree was planted along side the rest of the trees.

A TEACHER at the school, Brian Sprague, has served as the project coordinator for the "Beauty Your Neighborhood School" project. The project has been in the planning stages for nearly a year.

The school sent letters to the parents asking that they donate trees to the school which would be planted on a special day. Each family could go to Steinkopf's nursery and choose the tree they wanted and they plant it on the fourth.

Plans for the planting were

drawn up by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil and Water Conservation.

A local artist, John Dennis, of Hank Gluckman Associates in Farmington has drawn a large scale map of the school which shows where each family planted their tree.

The response has just been overwhelming, school principal Mrs. Millie Bennett said. "To tell the truth it just exceeded our wildest dreams."

PARENTS WERE sent a list of the types of trees which were needed. Prices on the trees ranged from \$5. to \$20. There were over \$800. worth of trees purchased.

The sixth grade headed the project, although all the students and their families were asked to participate. Families who wanted to buy a tree but could not be present on the official planting day had their trees planted by the sixth graders.



Jeff Sanders (with shovel), Matt Mocherman and Mark Williams plant the tree donated by Steinkopf's. (Evert photo)

Says visitor Transcripts unacceptable

By ROBERT KIPPER
His speech, titled "Politics and Ethics," didn't mention President Nixon or Watergate. His delivery—a crowd-pleasing blend of jokes, anecdotes, a boyish grin, and flashes of deep blue eyes—tended to soften the significance of his position.

Yet, inevitably, the questions from the audience focused on one topic: The possibility that the President of the United States would be impeached.

U. S. Rep. William S. Cohen, a Republican from Maine arrived fresh from a morning appearance on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation" to speak at the Birmingham Unitarian Church Sunday. The youngest member of the House Judiciary which is currently investigating possible impeachable offenses of the President, Cohen found the same questions at both stops.

Will the House Judiciary request impeachment? When will all this be over? Is the impeachment inquiry a fair, non-partisan one? Has the President committed an impeachable act? Is the evidence before the Judiciary sufficient to determine guilt or innocence?

COHEN STRESSES again and again that the House Judiciary does not have enough information to make a decision on impeachment.

The White House transcripts are not acceptable, Cohen insisted. "It is absolutely essential to hear the tapes," he said. "It is important to hear the context of the statements, the voice inflections. The transcripts are replete with omissions, inaudibles and removed expletives. They leave too many doubts and ambiguities that have to be resolved."

"The only way the committee can meet its responsibility is to have access to the best available evidence—the tapes themselves," he said.

COHEN, THE only Republican to vote with the Democratic majority on the committee on the initial subpoena for tapes, said there are indications that many of the passages marked "inaudible" in the transcripts would be audible on the house equipment.

He said the House should continue to subpoena the President whenever more information is needed. If he continues to refuse to comply with committee's requests, he said the committee would be justified in assuming the evidence being held back is incriminating.

Cohen defended fellow committee member John Conyers, a Michigan Democrat. White House spokesmen have blasted Conyers as "biased" because of his statement that evidence already in hand indicates that the President is guilty of an impeachable offense.

Cohen said such a statement was Conyers' prerogative, and no different or more prejudicial to the impeachment inquiry than White House assertions that the President is innocent.

FOR HIMSELF, Cohen said he can't decide guilt or innocence based on such fragmentary evidence. He said some of the evidence that the Judiciary is considering "hasn't been done" is incriminating and some is exoner-

ating. Much more is needed, he repeated.

Cohen attempted to lighten the rather heavy discussion on several occasions.

Asked when an impeachment trial might be conducted in the Senate, Cohen said, "Thank God, we only have to decide the future, not to predict it."

Asked to define what he felt an impeachable offense would be, Cohen quoted Robert Frost's definition of love: "It's undefinable but unmistakable—I'll know it when I see it."

LATER, THE questions were answered tersely.

Cohen felt a final decision by the Senate on whether or not to remove President Nixon from office shouldn't be expected until after this November's Congressional elections.

Defining his version of an impeachable offense, he said, "It would be an act or a series of acts that resulted in dishonor, disgrace or calumny to the office of the President."

Cohen had high praise for the way the Judiciary has conducted its investigation thus far.

"It has been a non-partisan pursuit of the truth," he said of the investigation. "I have complete confidence in (chairman) Peter Rodino. He is a fair, extremely patient and decent man who has bent over backwards to keep the investigation non-partisan."

COHEN, ALSO praised the man standing in the wings should President Nixon be removed, Vice-President Gerald Ford.

"He is open, honest and accessible," Cohen said. "He doesn't isolate or insulate himself from the people. He is just the opposite of what we've had."

The Maine Republican said he didn't think the President should resign.

"As painful as it is, impeachment is the way we have to go," he said. "The issue is so emotional and the country has been so polarized, there is no other way to resolve this."

Cohen admitted that Watergate could hurt his chances for a second term. He said no matter how he votes on impeachment, he will be hurt. Threats have even been made on his life pending his final vote, he said.



Budding artist

St. Fabian Catholic School is so proud of Carolyn Horvath there was a separate wall set aside for her work when the school held its art show for the parents this month. She's a fourth grader whose teacher is Josephine Kell. The pencil sketch she

shows is called "Grazing Colt" and will be on display in the show until the end of the month. The exhibit is open to the public through May 31. (Evert photo)

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