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By W. W. EDGAR

Ordinarily The Stroller is a rather easy-going fellow. It matters little to him whether it is raining or whether the sun is shining or if we have what the weather prophets on TV refer to as heavily overcast skies. Somehow or other he can get along and pick up a laugh or two along the way.

But occasionally there are some things that irk

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The Stroller ... No Cue Cards In Struggle Of Life

Schools Exceed UF Fund Goal

FARMINGTON
Byron Oliver, director of administrative services, announced that Farmington school district's United Foundation goal of \$8,000 had been exceeded. Total collections amounted to \$8,965.90. Commending the staff for topping last year's total of \$8,307.54, Oliver said, "We offer thanks to all contributors and congratulate workers on a job well done."

him and none more so than to sit in his living room watching a high priced TV star or a celebrity in living color, using cue cards, or to sit in one of our football stadia and watch a coach shuttling substitutes into the lineup for no other reason than to call the plays.

These fellows take a great deal of joy out of The Stroller's life because there is nothing more memorable than to listen to some performer whose name is a household word flub one of his lines, or stammer over the air, or completely miff his assignment.

Whoever could forget Harry Vonsell, the famed radio announcer, introducing President Hoover as Hoobert Heever? Or to listen to the legendary Lowell Thomas break out in laughter and being unable to stop until the program ended.

These were the moments that will live long after the shows or the other events are forgotten.

IT USED TO BE interesting too, to sit in the stands at any of the high school, or college football games and watch the young athletes stumble or blunder along the way. It was the mistakes they made, under the most trying situations, that provided much of the excitement to the game.

Those days are gone now as everyone strives for perfection. The fellow you see on your TV screen is fearful that his reputation may suffer if he flubs a line or gets caught in a moment when his mind goes blank and forgets his lines altogether.

So they resort to trickery by having cue cards (out of view) and read their lines as if they were fluent speakers. These cue cards even underscore the words that should be emphasized. It's too bad. They forget that perfection sometimes can be monotonous, too.

Then there is the football coach, feeling that he must build up a reputation and can't take a chance at the young athlete's decisions in calling plays. So in his eagerness to win, the coach becomes the sideline quarterback, and the young man out there in the thick of the struggle is little more than a robot.

Football never was meant to produce a generation of messengers. Through the years it was the means of building character and leadership. The young athletes would be placed in the crucible of competition and it didn't take long to separate the weak from the strong.

Coaches of course, had a great influence. But once the game started the decisions were left to the players. They were on their own.

THE PRESENT generation may find it difficult to believe, but there was a time when a team drew a penalty if its coach was detected signaling a play. And it always was fun to watch some of the coaches try to outwit the officials by going through a certain maneuver on the sidelines. But they'd never think of using a shuttle service to call the plays.

Such coaches as the immortal Knute Rockne, who made Notre Dame a football power, used a novel method. He lived with his quarterbacks most of the season and all through the summer. It was his wont to try to catch the quarterbacks by surprise and in the middle of a meal anytime of the year he might ask, "We're behind two touchdowns, we have the ball near the center of the field and it is third down, six—what play would you call?"

He'd listen, then nod in agreement or explain to the young lad why the play he called wouldn't do.

One of the best examples of the strong feeling between a coach and his quarterback happened at the University of Detroit under the regime of Gus Dorais.

Trailing one of their traditional rivals by three points with only minutes to play, Cliff Marsh,

the young quarterback, called a trick play deep in enemy territory and it failed. As a result the Titans lost.

In the dressing room after the game, a disappointed Dorais walked over to his quarterback and asked, "Cliff, what in the world made you call that play when a field goal would have tied the score and saved us from a defeat?"

"We didn't want a tie, coach," Marsh answered. "In the huddle we agreed it was win or nothing—so we lost."

"Okay," Dorais answered with a wry smile. "It is your game. If that's what you fellows wanted, it's OK with me."

Fellows like Cliff Marsh won't be disappointed when they learn that there are no cue cards in the struggle for existence.

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