

Detroit School--

(Continued from Page 1)

available here for a reasonable settlement of this problem.

Aside from the gross unfairness to the teachers, I do not believe suitable replacements could be obtained by this fall. The lack of adequate housing, the distance to dental and medical care, the lack of recreational and cultural facilities and our isolation, all represent drawbacks as far as attracting new teachers here.

We like these five teachers and want to keep them. They have been teaching here an average of four years, know our children, have built homes here and become part of the community. They are excellent teachers and will be finding employment elsewhere unless something is done promptly. For these reasons I am asking that an investigation be made by your office as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
AMBER RUTHERFORD.

Oregon Education Association
Portland, Oregon

March 31, 1953

Dear Mrs. Rutherford:

I am inclosing a copy of the report prepared by the OEA Ethics Commission on the Detroit school situation.

The commission has asked that I transmit this to you.

Very truly yours,
RICHARD H. BARSS

Background Information:

On January 13, 1953, the OEA was contacted by letter by a teacher in the Detroit schools, requesting answers on behalf of herself and some fellow teachers to questions involving administrator-teacher relationships. Following a visit by an OEA field service representative, three teachers and one parent made formal requests for study of the situation in Detroit by the OEA Ethics Commission. Their requests asked for impartial, outside help which might resolve conflicts which were hurting the school pro-

HUCKLEBERRY FINN



gram. The school board had arbitrarily decided in one motion, not to re-elect five members of the elementary school staff for the 1953-54 school year, seemingly as a result of the conflict situation. In addition, one individual requesting that the OEA obtain a public retraction of an alleged statement implying that he was said to be a communist and only co-operative with reluctance in an Americanism project of the Detroit school.

Commission Procedure:

Various individuals were contacted by representatives of the Ethics Commission in the course of investigations into the Detroit school situation. Two trips were made into the Detroit area, one on January 31 and a second on February 13, and the commission representatives talked with persons representing two opposing sides of the school controversy. They met with individuals who had filed the complaints as well as many other persons.

Information and Opinion Obtained:

Opinions and/or information obtained indicates that the Detroit schools have become a focal point for a fairly widespread community controversy. The conflict appears to be broader than the schools, but the schools have become a center of controversy. A petition had been circulated in the area which sought to prevent the re-election of the district's superintendent for the 1953-54 school year. The petition had not, to the time of the sub-committee's investigations, been formally presented to the school board as a whole. It had been directed to two individual members of the board. The district school board had, at its meeting of Jan. 15, re-elected the incumbent superintendent to a one-year contract for the 1953-54 school year, and at the same meeting the board acted on one motion and passed it which put it on record as decided not to re-elect five of the elementary school teachers for the

1953-54 school year. This action was said to have been taken because of a need to reduce the teaching staff by two members for the coming school year and because some of the teachers included in the motion were allegedly disturbing influences. Following the board action, another petition appears to have been circulated in the community to which a significant number of signatures were obtained. To the time of the commission investigations this petition, too, had not formally been presented to the board. It apparently stated that the signers believed the school board had been elected to do its job as its members saw fit. It implied, in effect, that the signers sustained the school board's actions.

Beliefs of the Commission:

On the basis of the information obtained, the commission believes the following points summarize the general situation:

1. There is a considerable community unrest over the Detroit schools.
2. The five teachers whom the board decided not to re-elect on Jan. 15 were generally considered excellent teachers in the class-room work.
3. There did not appear to be any belief on the part of any individuals contacted that anyone in the community considered any of the school's faculty members to be communistic or un-patriotic.
4. The board acted within its legal rights in re-electing the incumbent superintendent for another school year and in deciding not to re-elect the five elementary school teachers.
5. The petition seeking to replace the superintendent should have been presented to the board as a whole in the normal manner if it were to be given consideration by the board.
6. Prior to the board's actions on Jan. 15, so more all of the non-re-elected teachers had unwisely allowed themselves to become identified with the group of citizens opposed to the present school administration, but they appear not to have participated actively in opposition. Under the circumstances of community conflict, we believe it was unwise for the teachers to have allowed themselves to become identified with this opposition.
7. The school board acted hastily in the situation. It should have talked with the teachers before taking the action it did, and it should have had a prior understanding with any teach-

er who might have been retired upon reaching 65 years of age.

We Therefore Recommend:

1. The school board should re-examine its actions.
2. It should re-open consideration of the positions of the five elementary teachers concerned and consider each case individually, not through a blanket motion.
3. The board give the teachers an opportunity to discuss their situations in a fair and friendly atmosphere.
4. The teachers be given recommendations emphasizing the good nature of their teaching ability.
5. The school board and/or the school administration should immediately improve many questionable practices now found in the district, such as irregularity of board meetings as far as time and place are concerned, placing of teacher dismissal notices in open mail, and failure to give prompt official notice of actions taken concerning teachers before such actions become general public knowledge.
6. The community refrain from further direct agitation of the re-election issue but determine its future school situation by ballot in the next school election in the district.
7. That local economic interests not be allowed to impinge on school affairs as allegedly has occurred recently.

IT'S AMAZING!



A PERENNIAL PLANT GREW THRU THE SIDE OF A HOUSE INTO A ROOM, UP THRU THE ROOF AND OUT OF THE CHIMNEY!
(MONROE, OREGON)



FOR DESSERT, THE NATIVE OF SWITZERLAND EATS CHEESE DIPPED IN BUTTER-SOUP!!



PEOPLE WHO TROD ON HOLY RUGS WITH SHOES ON WERE ARRESTED AND EXECUTED IN 17TH CENTURY ARABIA!



IN ADAMSVILLE, RHODE ISLAND, A MONUMENT TO A HEN WAS ERRECTED RECENTLY!!!



SOUTH AMERICAN OPOSSUMS HAVE TAILS 3 TIMES THE LENGTH OF THEIR BODIES!!!

WE SELL BETTER CARS FOR LESS!
GENE TEAGUE CHEVROLET
Stayton
IT PAYS TO BUY AT HOME!

Open Elimination Tournament
Every Sunday 3 p.m.
EVERYONE WELCOME
MEANDER INN
On Highway 222, Linn County Side
MILL CITY
Shuffleboard George "Sparky" Ditter Good Music

Crosley Refrigerators and Ranges
Bendix and Thor Dryers
Small Appliances
ELECTRIC HEATING
INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL WIRING
COMMERCIAL LIGHTING
Marion Kite
ELECTRIC SERVICE
Detroit, Oregon
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING
F.H.A. FINANCING
Phone 263 Box 176

"SO UPSET BY 'CHANGE OF LIFE' I SCREAMED AT MY HUSBAND!"
writes Mrs. A. W., New York, N. Y.
"Now I don't suffer from 'hot flashes' and nervousness, feel fine!"
• Are you going through "change of life" . . . suffering the "hot flashes," nervous tension, irritability, weakness and other types of functionally-caused distress of this difficult time?
What Doctors' Tests Showed!
Then . . . here's hope for you! In tests by doctors, Lydia Pinkham's Compound and Tablets gave relief from such distress . . . in 63% and 80% (respectively) of the cases tested. Complete or striking relief!

ASTHMA COUGHS

Don't let difficult breathing, coughing and wheezing, due to recurring spasms of Bronchial Asthma or simple Bronchitis, ruin your sleep and energy without trying MENDIACO. Works through your blood to help loosen and remove thick, strangling mucus. Thus usually allows coughing which permits freer breathing and sounder sleep. Get MENDIACO under money back guarantee at drugists.

U Never Had It So Clean



WINDOW-WASHERS (insert) above Manhattan continuously swab the expansive glass surfaces of the United Nations Secretariat Building (shown at right). Washing the windows is an endless task at the UN's thirty-five story building whose front and back are almost entirely glass. Once the workmen have reached the "last" pane of glass, it is time to start all over again. Surely, "no one ever had it so clean."

DON'T BE AFRAID, HONEY — RIGHT THERE IS SOMEONE WHO IS GOING TO HELP YOU!

MILTON CANIFF
and STEVE CANNON
Copyright 1953, Fred Goetzman, Inc.
EASTER MEANS 'DAWN'... YOU CAN BRING A NEW DAY TO A LOT OF SWELL KIDS WHEN YOU BUY 1953 EASTER SEALS...

HE COMMANDED ALL SUBS IN THE PACIFIC DURING THE EARLY MONTHS OF THE KOREAN WAR, DISPATCHING HIS UNDERSEA FLEET FROM PEARL HARBOR.

REAR ADMIRAL JOHN H. BROWN U.S. NAVY

DURING WORLD WAR II HE LED A BATTAL OF SUBS WHICH SANK 72 ENEMY SHIPS AND DAMAGED 54 OTHERS.

HIS OUTSTANDING ABILITY IN FOOTBALL WON HIM A POSITION ON THE 1913 ALL-AMERICAN TEAM.

HE COMMANDED A CRUISER DIVISION AND TASK FORCE BOMBARDING ENEMY AIRFIELDS AND ELIMINATING JAPANESE SHIPPING IN THE KURILE AREA.

H.J. GOUDIE

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS OF THIS NEWSPAPER.