

## Michigan High School Stands Idle

INKSTER, Mich. (UPI) — All the clocks are working, ticking away the school year.

Lathes, grinders and drill presses stand ready in the classroom shops. Most of the classroom desks are in place. The gym floor gleams with varnish and the swimming pool needs only to be filled with water.

The spanking new \$3 million Hamilton J. Robichaud High School here has just about everything—except students and teachers.

Residents of Dearborn Township School District No. 8 approved spending the money for the new high school which was to open this fall.

But then they balked and twice turned down referenda to raise taxes to provide money for operating expenses and teachers for the new school.

"Too many frills," the taxpayers complained. "We can't afford this kind of thing."

So the new high school, which was going to be the pride of this community west of Detroit, stands idle while junior high and high school students attend classes on split shifts in the old Roosevelt School building about a block away.

The new school is named for the district's present superintendent who has been on the job since 1942. Robichaud finds this embarrassing and insists he did

not want the school named for him.

Robichaud and high school Principal Ben J. Karwoski don't, however, think the new school is filled with frills.

High school juniors and seniors attending classes on split shifts at Roosevelt now get, for the most part, only four courses a semester—the bare minimum for graduating or being admitted to a college.

If the new school had been opened, all students would have been able to take six courses.

More important, according to Robichaud and Karwoski, the new school building has the equipment and room to provide "vocational" type courses that cannot be offered in the old building—courses such as salesmanship, industrial mechanics, electronics and home economics which require well-equipped laboratories and shops.

While old, red-brick Roosevelt School is jammed with students on double shifts, just a block away stands the beautiful new school, tan brick with blue trim on the outside.

The school is built in three wings with a circular library at the end of the "academic wing." Glass-enclosed corridors with tile floors connect the wings.

Another wing holds "shop" and home economics classrooms and science laboratories filled with

brand new lathes and sewing machines and other equipment.

There is also a 75-foot long swimming pool, a huge gymnasium and an auditorium that seats 600 in soft, theater-like chairs.

What is the financial problem that keeps the new school empty of students?

Robichaud says the district's territory is a typical "bedroom suburb," mostly residential property with little industry to help bear the tax load.

The neighboring city of Dearborn, for example, has a property tax base of about \$29,000 per student, thanks to industry like the Ford Motor Co.

But District No. 8 has a tax base of only about \$6,170 per student, the ninth lowest among Wayne County's 43 school districts.

This means a tax increase lands hard on homeowners. The school tax rate is now \$23.95 per \$1,000 assessed property valuation.

Its low tax base makes District No. 8 a "distressed" district under state law and it gets extra money from the state—but not enough to solve the problems.

Robichaud and other school officials talk hopefully of getting the school open before this school year ends, perhaps even before the second semester begins in February.

## Castro Regime Exploits Fear To Solidify Position

HAVANA (AP)—Fear is fast replacing the joy that accompanied Fidel Castro's sweep to power nearly two years ago.

By various means, the revolutionary regime is exploiting this fear to help solidify its position. This suggests to observers here that the government itself may have doubts about the depth of its support.

Fear is nothing new to Cubans. It was felt during Fulgencio Batista's dictatorship. Now it is beginning to show again among the usually carefree Cubans. The label "counterrevolutionary," ugliest in revolutionary language, is easy to come by. It can mean prison and even death.

Castro jangled nerves recently when he announced "revolutionary passes" would be organized block-by-block to root out conspirators.

Some months previously he had called on the citizenry to inform on unpatriotic neighbors. These informers were officially christened "civic-minded citizens." In Batista's time, Castro's underground followers referred with loathing to informers as "chivatos," freely translated to "bleating goats." After Castro took

over, many of these chivatos were imprisoned, some executed.

The restoration of military tribunals has been a grim element in the use of fear as a deterrent to Castro's opponents. The tribunals in 1959 sent more than 500 persons to firing squad deaths after swift trials.

Cubans claim the government has a veritable army of undercover agents and unsalaried informers, male and female, eavesdropping in bars, restaurants, theaters, hotel lobbies and even in taxis, buses and churches.

Their efficiency was demonstrated after the first major clash between anti and pro-Castro elements at Havana Cathedral this summer. The day after the incident, the government-controlled press published a list of churchgoers, mostly women, and accused them of causing the flareup.

These churchgoers were identified as relatives of "known counter-revolutionaries."

There is a "voluntary tax" for industrialization purposes. A worker can decline to have this tax deducted from his salary, but he must detail the reasons to the labor ministry. This ministry has full control over labor, including

hiring and firing and shaping up work rolls in relation to seniority and capability.

"Those who refuse to pay the tax or join the militia become suspect," a Cuban businessman said. "The same thing goes for the employee who fails to heed a union summons to turn out for pro-government demonstrations."

There is little question Castro's following is still formidable—armed and well organized. But this capital isn't the happy, noisy place that greeted Castro in January, 1959. Its gaiety is muted, its tempo has slackened.

People in public places stop speaking the instant you walk near them if they don't know you.

They eye you carefully. Many speak in whispers, glancing over their shoulders.

"One just doesn't know who to trust," a young Cuban stenographer said.

An American woman, a long-time resident of Cuba, put it this way:

"Listen carefully and you'll find their true feelings in the music they are playing these days. In bars and night clubs you'll hear less and less bouncy Cuban rhythms and more of the sad and gentle Argentine tangos and Mexican ballads. The Cuban is sad these days."

## District Reports No Fires Sighted

LAKEVIEW—The Warner Ranger District of the Fremont National Forest says that no fires were reported over the opening weekend of deer season.

This is a remarkable record for the great number of hunters that hunted on the district.

Over the opening weekend hunter patrols contacted over 600 hunters in their camps and checked their camps for fire safety. Patrolmen found that most hunters built their campfires in a safe spot but some hunters were not fully extinguishing their fires when they left for the morning hunt.

Hunters are cautioned to make sure their campfires are dead

out before they leave their camps or they may return and find that fire has destroyed their tents and other valuable camping equipment.

The ticking of a clock in a vacuum jar is inaudible, showing that sound must have a medium in which to travel.

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