

Spare 'Tire' Pops: Jet Planes Zoom!!

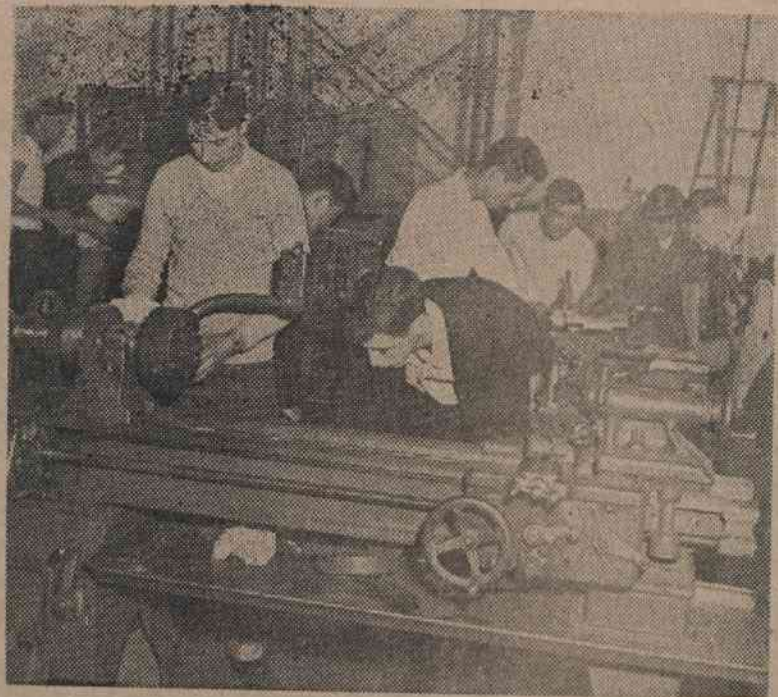
Have you ever changed a tire by using the contents of a pop bottle for your spare, or fried an egg on a cold stove? General Motor's Science demonstration in an assembly December 8 proved that these things are not so fantastic as they sound, even if such aren't probable now.

During a special assembly General Motors representatives presented a program called "Previews of Progress", in which synthetic rubber was made in a pop bottle and miniature jet planes were shot across the stage, demonstrating what happens when two certain chemicals are mixed.

To the shock of many, a small jet motor was started and the noise it made was terrifically loud. The real surprise came when an egg was fried on a cold stove with the pan on a paper napkin. The napkin didn't even get signed and the stove stayed cold after the egg was cooked.

A phonograph record was played into one transmitter and sent by air waves into another at the other end of the stage. Students heard the record coming from the opposite side through loud speakers. When the representative put out his hand or stood in front of the transmitter, the music stopped.

Such a program stimulates interest in research the representative said.



Pictured above are the members of the machine shop class at work. From left to right Milton Dickens, Buck Ayscue, Jimmy Mears, Graham Adams, Eddie Booth and Glen Williams are recognized as they clean the machinery.

Shop Boasts Many Machines

Boys in this school are fortunate to have access to excellent and modern manual arts department.

The school shop is as well equipped with the various kinds of machines as any machine shop in the city. This in itself offers boys the opportunity for excellent training, because they can here learn how to operate all the different kinds of machines found in the Rocky Mount shops.

In the mechanical drawing courses offered, those students interested in engineering and architecture are given a chance to learn something about their chosen field. During the first semester they learn about drafting and how to draw plans, and in the second semester they put their knowledge to use and take as a project the drawing of a set of plans.

At the present the shop boys are busy fixing, setting up, and painting machinery as depicted in the above picture. Whenever there is something in the school that needs repairing and which the boys in the shop are capable of handling, they efficiently do so.

Later in the year each student will pick a special project to work on individually, such as making a bookcase, a stool, or a table.

Tony Lands Runaway

An ambulance, which had rushed to the airport at an urgent call, drove away empty after Tony Hammond, an aspiring young pilot, had safely landed a runaway Piper Cub.

Thirteen-year-old Tony, who spends much time around the field, has wanted to become a pilot for sometime, but before last Saturday had never even been at the controls of a plane. He got his chance much sooner than he expected.

Youngster At Controls
While holding the brakes for the pilot, William Gaitner, to turn the propeller to start the engine, Tony

and another passenger, Richard Floyd, felt the plane move and suddenly they were airborne. Since the older Floyd knew less about flying than Tony, it was left up to the youngster to handle the controls during the ten or fifteen-minute flight.

L. P. Broadfield, manager of the airport, reported that the landing would have been successful had not the wing-tip struck a landing light, causing the plane to nose over.

Damage Slight

Damage included a broken propeller, a torn wing, broken landing gear, and shattered nerves for the adventurers and spectators.

Tony's enthusiasm was not dampened by the escapade; he still wants to learn to fly when he is old enough. Perhaps some of his ambition and knowledge comes from his older brother, Flaye. Flaye is a junior at senior high and already has his pilot's license.

Stork Visits 110, Presents Twins

What's that? You say the staff members are passing out cigars! The occasion? Oh, the stork has visited *The Blackbird* and presented it with a set of twins? Well, that is news! Congratulations, but, but, but-----!!

Yes, it is true that *The Blackbird* has twins but not in the sense you may think. *The Babybird* and *The Blackbird, Junior* are newspapers made by Mrs. Young's second and third period junior English classes.

These two classes, after completing a unit on journalism, decided that they wanted to make their own newspapers. Instead of each person's making a paper, they made it a co-operative class project, with organized editorial and business staffs.

After the papers had been planned, layouts made, articles written and typed, stencils were cut and papers were mimeographed so that every student in the two classes could have two papers.

Students who worked on this project, in their evaluations, stated that a lot of hard work went into it but also that a lot of pleasure and immediate as well as long-range, useful information was gained from the unit.

Dream Comes True

No longer is the gymnasium of the new senior high school a dream or a hope for the future. It is more of a reality since contracts have been awarded and ground has been broken.

General contractor is Davis and Safron and the electrical contractor is Thompson Electric and heater contractor is Pemberton, Inc. of Rocky Mount.

Architect, Mr. H. Raymond Weeks of Durham, states that he expects the gymnasium to be ready for use next fall.

Tops In Reading

Frequent requests for *Romantic Rebel* and *Rice and Men* indicate that these two books are the most popular non-fiction books in the library.

The girls seem to prefer *Romantic Rebel* by Hildegarde Hawthorne, told in a "folksy" kind of way.

The boys, however, appear to like *Rice and Men* by Bob Reynolds. His book deals with the famous Bataan death march and all the horrible experiences the soldiers had to go through.

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