



IT'S WAITING—This side view of the New Bern High school auditorium is one of the familiar scenes that students will return to a few weeks from now. Many of their activities are associated with the spacious structure.

## Public Warned About Eclipse

There will be an eclipse of the sun visible all over the United States on Saturday, July 20.

DON'T LOOK AT THE ECLIPSE unless you have first obtained expert guidance on how to do it without injuring your eyes.

Ophthalmologists (medical eye specialists) know that with each recurring eclipse of the sun they can anticipate cases of serious eye damage, even blindness.

Dark sun glasses are no protection. There are NO FILTERS generally available that make safe viewing of an eclipse possible. This includes the sooted glass that many people once believed safe. Even heavy welders' glasses do not protect.

Telescopes and binoculars trained on an eclipse are parti-

cularly dangerous. They magnify and intensify the burn. DON'T PHOTOGRAPH THE ECLIPSE unless you are an experienced professional. Looking into the viewfinder of a camera pointed at the sun is highly dangerous. Even special filters don't help, unless they are chosen with great care.

Most people, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN, don't realize that less than one second's exposure to the direct rays of the sun can, under some circumstances, cause permanent blindness. There isn't even necessarily any immediate sensation of pain before the damage is done.

The only safe method of watching an eclipse is by the "projection method." That is, the viewer looks at an image of the eclipse, rather than at the eclipse itself. The image is projected onto a white surface and the observer, WITH HIS BACK TO THE SUN, watches the image.

Most of us have set fire to a piece of paper by focusing the rays of the sun through a magnifying glass. It is this same burning power that damages the retina of the eye in eclipse blindness. The sun's rays are brought to focus on the interior of the eye by the optical system within the eye.

In fact, the safest way to view the eclipse is on television or through photos

## TOT TALK



Although the average New Bern parent may not want to try it, you can teach your child to swim at a very early age. For example, there's a mother in Glen Rock, N. J., who claims she had no trouble making a miniature mermaid out of her five month old daughter.

Mrs. Joan P. Loven, telling her story in the Christian Science Monitor, says, "The most valuable lesson I learned was to play it by ear, so to speak. I found if I was willing to learn, she would let me know when and what to do."

Although the Lovens have a pool in their backyard, Mrs.

in magazines and newspapers. Unless you obtain professional advice from an expert--an ophthalmologist, astronomer or optical scientist--don't look at the eclipse.

Loven started instructing Mimi while giving her a bath. Wondering how the youngster would react to water covering her nose and mouth, she squeezed the sponge over the child's head. "As long as I thought it was fun," reported Mrs. Loven, "she obligingly giggled."

Mimi closed her eyes tightly and cooed. Then, with a cup, her mother poured more water over her head and it soon became a game. Having gone that far, the two abandoned the bath and went wading in the pool. Mrs. Loven brought the cup along, and while Mimi splashed with delight, she poured water from it.

Believe it or not, Mrs. Loven says she had her tiny daughter swimming by the end of the week. She got the child's head under water by pushing a gaily colored ball beneath the surface. Mimi made an ef-

fort to reach it, and the second time she knew enough not to inhale.

The next day they jumped into the pool together. They did it over and over again. Mimi loved it, and felt no fear. The next day they waded out to deep water, with Mrs. Loven's hands lightly around her daughter's waist.

Mimi sank about a foot, opened her eyes, and paddled to the top and along the surface like a cocker spaniel. Each day she paddled further, and in a few weeks was even swimming under water like her mother.

Some for renown, on scraps of learning dote, And think they grow immortal when they quote.--Young.

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