

# Proposed Youth Center Is Seen Through Eyes of School Children

The interest of local school children in regard to "Operation Youth's" proposed permanent youth center in Black Mountain is vividly expressed in the following compositions and excerpts written by pupils here. Some others have been presented earlier in the season, a number appeared in these columns last week, and it is hoped that additional compositions of their authorship will be published by the News from time to time as the building plans are carried forward.

"Operation Youth's" proposed center is a "Finer Carolina" project.

By JUDITH ANNE BORING

This project known as Operation Youth is a very important one in my opinion because the young people of Black Mountain have little or no recreation and they should have more.

The people of this town have raised \$3,500.00, but \$7,500.00 is needed to get started.

The youth center of Black Mountain is to be located on Highway 70 going toward Asheville. The exact location is to be on Crumroad, just outside Black Mountain.

Young people from 13 to 19 should be able to come and enjoy activities taking place at this youth center.

In my opinion this youth center should be run by a group of young people and some older, more experienced persons. I think there should be two young people of 13, two of 14, two of 15, two of 16, two of 17, two of 18, and two of 19 and these should be selected by the other young people going and taking part in the activities at the youth center. I think there should be three older and more experienced people elected by the young people.

This would make 14 young people and three older persons to help them, making 17 in all. There would never be indecision on something or some matter which came up because 17 is an uneven number and things could also be decided upon in this way.

The chairman of this operation is Mr. R. C. Bowness. He has many

others co-operating. In my opinion these men deserve much credit and we should be thankful to have them in our town.

I am 14 and I know that I would be greatly pleased if we, the young people of Black Mountain, had a youth center.

By CRYSTAL RIDGE

I think the youth center can provide for me: Enjoyment, exercise, experience, both mental and physical development, and co-operation of leadership.

For enjoyment, exercise, experience, and for both mental and physical developments. I think the following activities would help me and others: skating, tennis, badminton, basketball, a horse ring.

A youth center could help keep children out of trouble. A work shop would be helpful to drop-outs of school and other children who might be interested in shop work. I think that a youth center will help Black Mountain's children a great deal.

By JACK BRADLEY

I think that the town is very nice to build a youth center. It will be just dandy for Boy and Girl Scouts and a good place to form clubs and have parties. It will mean a lot to young people in Black Mountain and keep them out of trouble.

By RONNIE SMITH

I think it would be a good place for young people to go and stay while their parents go to town or to visit people and I think it would be a good place for people to have parties and square dances and other games to play. It would be a good place for clubs and for people to study or for a quiet place for people to read books.

By DAVID SOLOMON

I think that it is a very good idea. It will be good for clubs to meet. Mothers can take their children to the clubhouse. Some people have given a lot of money for the project. Some have given a few dollars. But a little is as good as a lot.

By BARBARA TALTON

I think the clubhouse is a good idea. It would be a good place for Girl and Boy Scouts to meet. It would be a good place for other clubs to meet, also.

The clubhouse would be a nice place for parties, because there are a lot of houses without enough room for them to give parties. It would be a good place for children to go while their parents work, shop or go to their clubs.

The parents make nice gifts of money for the clubhouse. It is a very nice thing to do.

By BRUCE DAVIS

I think that a youth center is a good idea. It would be a good meeting place for Boy and Girl Scouts and meeting places for parties. I think parents should help, too.

It would help kids to know other kids. Maybe we could have a small library and a study room and maybe have a gym and a ball diamond, maybe a small wading pool for small kids and a place for swings and sliding boards.

By JIMMY NANNEY

I thank you for the clubhouse. I think you for the good idea. It would give us a place to do home work. It would be a good place for the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. It would give a place to play. They will have a gymnasium. It would keep boys and girls out of trouble. Boys and girls could keep the games and the grounds clean.

By PEGGY STEVENS

A clubhouse could be used in many ways. It could be a meeting place for the Boy and Girl Scouts. It could be a place for other children to meet, too. The girls could be the cleaner-uppers for the inside of the clubhouse. The boys could be the cleaner-uppers for the outside.

The parents have donated from \$1 to \$100. We are very thankful for this. We still could get some new things after the clubhouse is built by the children donating.

By DEDE STYLES

I think the clubhouse would be a good place for Boy and Girl Scouts to meet. It would be a good place for any other youth club. If anyone wanted to have a big party and did not have room enough for it, in their house they could use the clubhouse. It would be a good place for people to leave their children if they had to go somewhere.

The high school students could get a summer job working at the clubhouse. The mother of a few children might work at the clubhouse.

By BARBARA MILLER

This Operation Youth Center, I am sure, would mean a lot to me and other children of Black Mountain.

I see lots of children playing on the streets and I actually saw a little girl hit by a car.

This youth center would mean more, I believe, to the children who do not go to school or can't. In this youth center one can have more experience with different things that they have never done before. I know lots of boys like to play football, baseball, softball, and basketball. I think it would be nice to have a Little League baseball team.

I like to skate, play different games, crafts and ride horses. I think it would be nice to have a horse ring and in it the boys and girls could have track meets.

In this building you can have different rooms for the Boy and

**WINTER LIBRARY HOURS**

Readers may visit the Black Mountain library on the second floor of City hall to borrow books on the following days of the week:

Mondays: 6 to 8 p.m.  
Wednesdays: 3 to 6 p.m.  
Fridays: 10 a.m. to 12 noon.  
Saturdays: 3 to 6 p.m.

Books may be returned at any time by placing them in the return book-box installed this season on the first floor at City hall.

## The Hymns We Love

By Vernon Johnson

**"THE OLD RUGGED CROSS"**

Many congregations in the United States love the old gospel hymns, and "The Old Rugged Cross," by George Bennard, is their favorite by far.

Just consider the euphony of the words themselves:

"On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross  
The emblem of suffering and shame,  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain."

The words almost sing themselves.

And think, too, of the hope-filled chorus:

"So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it some day for a crown."

No wonder it has universal appeal and hence is universally loved.

The composer, Bennard, a Methodist minister—formerly of the Salvation Army—was conducting a revival in the small town of Albion, Mich. He felt the need for a hymn with a swinging melody, words that were easily sung, and a good chorus. Thus he wrote this hymn. Its theology is simple and evangelical, and has all the qualities of what John Wesley would call "Believers believing".

Certainly, George Bennard was close to the heart of good sound, emotional religion in the "Old Rugged Cross".

## SCHOOL AND ... YOUR CHILD

By John Corey

Of the average 16 subjects a student takes during his four years of high school only seven are specifically named for him.

The N. C. Department of Public Instruction requires U. S. history, biology, physical education and English I, II, III and IV.

This leaves nine courses, or more in some schools depending on their schedules, which must be selected.

High schools today offer wide varieties of subjects, ranging from basic mathematics to trigonometry and ancient history to world geography.

Intelligent selections tremendously affect the shaping of a high school's future. They can mean a head start in a vocation, less difficulty in college or a generally happier life.

Poor choosing can mean extravagant time waiting. Just one subject requires 180 hours each year. If far too hard or easy or chosen prematurely, it not only causes the student's time going down the drain but even creates within him negative behavior habits.

In a few months, thousands of boys and girls about to enter high school or those already in it, face the question: "What to take next year?"

Who should make the important decision?

The student himself, inexperienced, often without specific aims?

The parents, who want the best for their Junior but not sure what it is?

The school official, who often knows more about a youngster's

abilities than the parents but less about home and personal factors, strong motivators behind youth's desires and ambitions.

A logical answer comes from Dr. Roy R. Blanton, Jr., principal of the laboratory Appalachian High school on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers college at Boone.

He recommends all three — the parents, principal and Junior — making the decision together in conference.

"Each possesses special information the other doesn't have," says Dr. Blanton. "Pooling it together as a team enables the construction of a realistic course of study which is best for Junior."

The parent neglecting to come together with the principal and his child does the youngster an injustice, the 18-year veteran educator warns.

Just what subjects Junior selects should be determined largely by the vocation he wishes to enter, Dr. Blanton advises. Careful analysis by the team is especially necessary to estimate Junior's ability to succeed in his chosen pursuit.

If the vocation calls for college education, Junior must take certain courses to meet college entrance requirements such as a language, which many students prefer to postpone. Schoolmen acquaint themselves with college and university requirements.

If the team decides it's best for Junior to end his formal education at high school graduation, a variety of courses should be selected to familiarize him with the world in which he lives and prepare him for responsibilities of a democracy.

The average high school offers several vocational courses. In these Junior may learn a worthwhile occupation. Most school curricula carry business subjects such as typ-

ing and shorthand. Some offer auto mechanics, carpentry and agriculture.

And for the high schooler undecided about his future, a general course of study is a good bet, states Dr. Blanton. It exposes him to many fields, one of which could key him to a calling of his liking.

(Editors note: Because of the tremendous public demand for authoritative information in the field of education, "School and Your Child," will be a regular weekly column in this newspaper. Those having questions concerning any aspect of education are invited to send inquiries to "School and Your Child," Appalachian State Teachers college, Boone, N. C.)

—Fertilizer injury can be eliminated by following soil test recommendations.

## Which Industry Now Betters The Living of 2 Out Of 3 North Carolina Families?

... Here Are Some Surprising Facts About The Trading Stamp Industry

So far, whenever our nation's economy has needed expansion, a new industry has sprung up to help the country go ahead.

The automobile industry, employing millions, was followed closely by the development of radio and radio broadcasting to make more millions of jobs. Then came the airplane industry, air conditioning, plastics, television, frozen foods, to change our lives some more.

The trading stamp industry, while not new, belongs to this expansion group and has been one of the fastest growing of all. Today it directly benefits the living of the more than 2 out of 3 North Carolina families who save trading stamps.

Obviously, an industry affecting such a large proportion of North Carolina's population must bring far-reaching benefits for North Carolina's economy. And it does.

In 1957 the trading stamp industry bought \$20,731,000 worth of products from North Carolina's manufacturers. In one way or another, it provided employment for 1,985 North Carolina people in many different industries.

The people in the trading stamp industry, its merchandise and redemption stores, its warehouses and transportation and all the activity that goes on within it are helping to develop North Carolina.

Thus it seems plain that the trading stamp industry along with the 730,800 North Carolina women it serves has become, like other expansion industries, a living, vital part of our State's economy.

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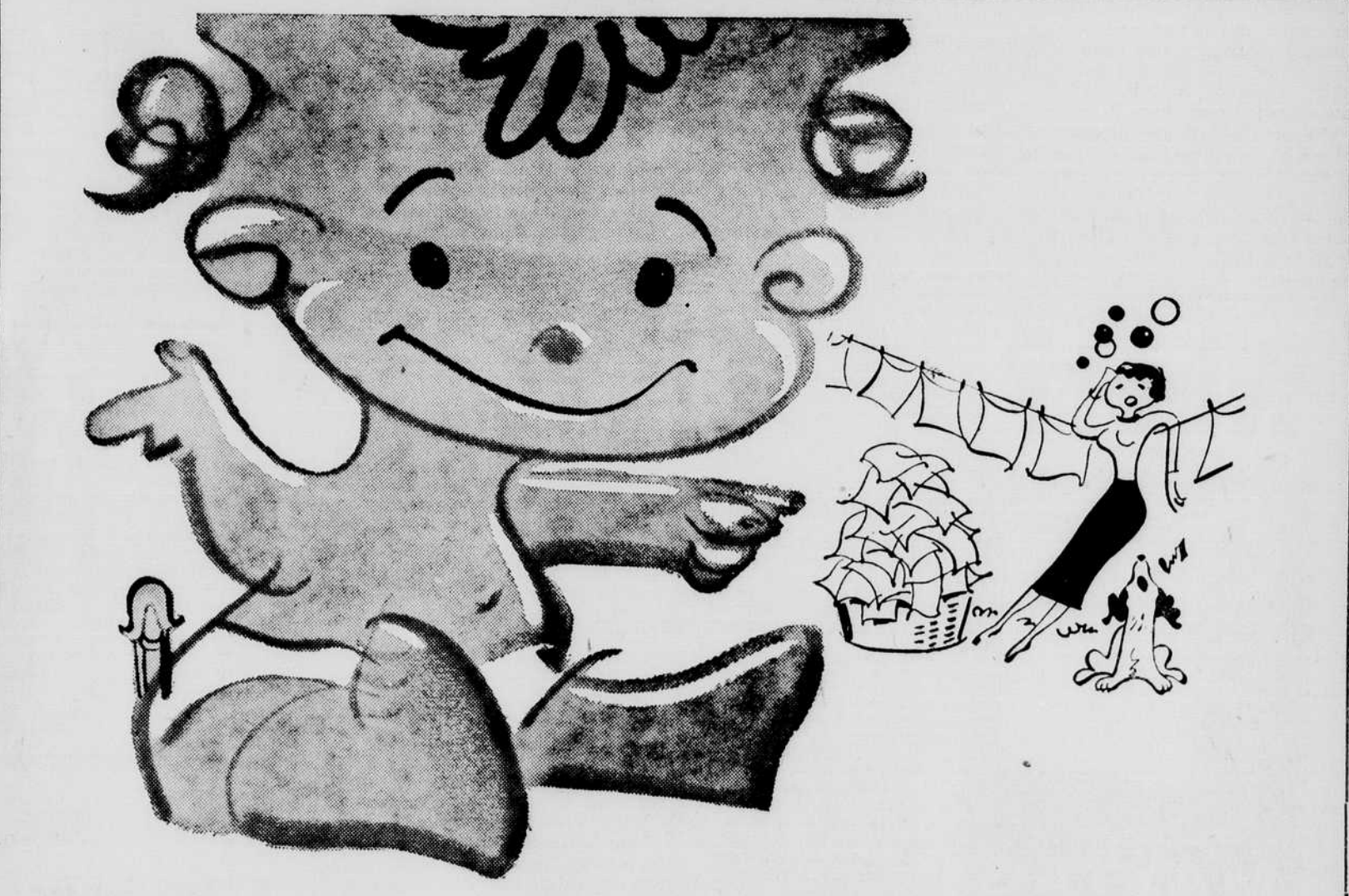
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