

The Looking Glass

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The Students of DeWitt High School, DeWitt, Mich.

October, 1929



You May Be a Genius



Someone has said: "Genius is dictatorial without knowing it, obstructive without wishing to be, intolerant unawares, and unsocial because it cannot help it." Right away someone jumps up and exclaims, "I'm a genius!"

We are not printing the above quotation to furnish anyone with an excuse for being bossy or for always being on the contrary side, or for thinking that he knows it all and that other persons are therefore surely wrong, or for holding himself aloof from his fellow beings.

If the above characteristics constituted all that there is to genius, we would advise our friends to knock genius over the head with an "alley apple" whenever they see it popping up in their lives.

But let's stop a moment and consider the above elements of human nature. How often almost anyone is inclined to be dictatorial! Sometimes, if we look back at a week or month of our associations with others in the home, or at business, or in social relationships, we can see instances wherein we actually were dictatorial, without knowing it.

But for the most part, people know when they are assuming this attitude. To recognize a fault is the first step in overcoming it. Stop a moment and think. Are you ever dictatorial in situations wherein you have no right to be?

The next point in the quotation is that genius is often obtrusive, without wishing to be. We once knew a person who always took the opposite side of a question being discussed, especially if it were an aggressive program of advancement.

Upon discovering the consistency of this attitude, we inquired of said person, and she gave us this comment: "In a public meeting, somebody has to be obtrusive or the matter will not be thoroughly thrashed out, and action may be taken hastily without due consideration for all of the things at stake. I have made it a lifetime policy always to be obtrusive. Therefore I have been thoroughly disliked and hated in public more than anyone about me—and I have had a glorious time!"

There are more geniuses than this world has been given credit for, if being unsocial because of timidity puts one in that class. Many people will discover, as the horses did when automobiles first came out, that familiarity will breed contempt for anything of which one is at first afraid.

It will not take a great deal of acting for a very long period for a person who feels that he cannot be sociable to cultivate many sociable instincts and habits. It merely requires constant practice as occasion affords, or as opportunity can be made.

Anyone can be a genius in a certain sense. By resolving to watch themselves in relation to the above undesirable characteristics, and by constantly endeavoring to cultivate the last one or sociability. That is, after a given period of time of such effort, they can look back and see what great progress they have made.

The effect in just a little effort will be so miraculous that one will feel like exclaiming to himself because of his success: "Why, you certainly are a genius!"



The Looking Glass

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HOME

What does the word "home" mean to you? Or, rather, what should it mean to you? Have you ever thought of that before? In case you haven't, let us think of it now together.

Home should mean a place of peace, happiness and love; motherly, fatherly and brotherly love. Going home should be looked forward to with enthusiasm. Whether we are at school, a party or on a visit, there is always that feeling of and safeness when we reach home.

What holds our home together? Love, of course; what else could it be? Home should have a special meaning for each of its members. To father, after a hard day's work, home proves a haven of rest. To mother, what does home mean? A place where her greatest happiness lies in keeping her home and family neat and clean. And to the children it means a place where their greatest happiness as well as their greatest sorrows are shared and made easier to bear.

Stranger: "I believe I've met you some place before."

Gertrude: "I wouldn't be surprised; I've been places."

HIGH SCHOOLS

The party given by the Sophomores in honor of the Freshmen was a great success. The initiation of the Freshmen was one of the main features of the evening. Games were played and refreshments of ice cream and cake were served.

* * *

Louis Felzke and Hazel Zischke have left school.

* * *

A masquerade party in honor of the Sophomores will be held at the home of Rhoda Belle Reynolds, the evening of October 29.

* * *

Mr. Philip Pryor, a colored entertainer, came to DeWitt School, Wednesday, September 25, and amused the students for an hour with Negro songs and jokes.

* * *

The P. T. A. met at the school house October 8. School was held for an hour in each room. Classes were conducted to show the parents how classes are carried on. At the meeting, the school nurse, Miss Farriby, gave a short talk on health. Refreshments of apples, sandwiches and doughnuts were served.

GRAMMAR ROOM

Three new students have been enrolled in the grammar room, Helen Helfrich and Lyle Helfrich in the sixth grade and Paul Marsh in the seventh.

* * *

The grammar room has a new American flag.

* * *

A spelling contest is being held by the seventh and eighth grades.

* * *

The next meeting of the Little Mother's League will be held at the home of Virginia Brainerd.

* * *

The classes that were held at the P. T. A. meeting were: Sixth, English; seventh, Arithmetic, and eighth, Civics.

INTERMEDIATE ROOM

Jean Marsh, Bessie Helfrich and John Helfrich entered school recently.

(Concluded on Page 7)

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CARNIVAL

Everybody in the village of DeWitt and near here are to be at the DeWitt High School, October 25, 1929, at seven o'clock to attend the biggest and best carnival of all times. You haven't any idea what you will miss if you forget to come. Everyone gets their fortune told. A snake charmer! What could be better? And girls and women, a beauty parlor. Then men, there's something for you too, a trip to Hades. There's also an old-fashioned quartette showing Mr. Mark Norris, Mrs. Ina Wetherall, Mrs. McClugh and Mr. Fred Hazel, at their best.

Cider, pie, popcorn, candy, hot dogs and doughnuts make the bill-of-fare. Can't you just taste it? Squakers, balloons, grab bags and paper hats are a few of the souvenirs. What noise there will be, but who cares.

Then comes the big hit of the evening. The feature play, "Here Comes the Groom." Sounds good, doesn't it? But wait till you see it, then you will know it is good. Poor Francis Klaver, who is acting the part of the groom, in this wonderful play, understands fully the situation he is in, but is quite relieved at the way things turn out in the end. But I am not going to tell you what happens, because it would spoil it for you when you see it.

So, folks, here's hoping we will see you all the Friday evening of the Carnival.

TEACHER'S INSTITUTE

The Teachers' Institute was held at Jackson the 16th and 17th of this month. All the teachers from the DeWitt High school attended it. A fine program was given, of which the famous impersonator, Cornelia Otis Skinner was a member. Mr. Will Irwin furnished a very interesting number. There were many other interesting talks given.

The Institute was provided for by the state. It

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KATHERINE SEIBERT

Teacher of Piano and Harmony

ST. JOHNS, MICH.

PHONE 40 F 11

Pupil of VICTOR BENHAM

Michigan Conservatory of Music, Detroit, Mich.

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Association

Near and Far

Items of Interest

A GLIMPSE OF OUR VILLAGE IN THE EARLY SIXTIES

Let us go back to about the year 1860 when DeWitt was the county seat. Imagine, if you can, our village with no more than four hundred population and consisting only of Main street and Bridge street. There were four doctors, three lawyers, two teachers, two hotels, and four stores. There was also a shoemaker's shop and a wagon shop, which was located where Wm. Rogerson's home now stands. There was also a millinery shop and a foundry. The school house was a two-story frame building. The school was not divided into grades and there were only two teachers. The Indians lived in their wigwams near the village and were always friendly. The Looking Glass River was much higher than it is now. The post office was located where Spayd's Meat Market now stands. There was neither bank nor railroad. There was an organized Baptist Church which stood where the DeWitt Community Church now stands. There are also many other interesting things which we have neither space nor time to tell.

VILLAGE NEWS

The post office which was formerly in the inter-urban station has been moved under the I. O. O. F. hall on West Maine street.

* * *

The fire engine has been having a great deal of practice lately. It has been at Schaveys, Grinolds and Carl Staubs.

* * *

There will be a birthday dinner at the Masonic hall, Friday, November 15. The tables will be decorated suitable for each month of the year. It is given by the Ladies' Aid Society. Every one is cordially invited to attend.

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DeWITT



Clifford Loesch and Dorothy Stewart are attending the Lansing Business University.

Goldie Stoy, Ethel Burke and Cornelia Norton are busy studying at Eastern High school of Lansing.

Joyce Cary, Beatrice Moon and Ardis Livermore are keeping count of the boys at Central High school of Lansing.

Donald Brainerd, Carl Grinolds, Victor Ward and Lucille Yanz are attending school at St. Johns, Donald and Carl are taking active part in football.

Lois Schools is attending school at Laingsburg.

Jean McKinney is attending school at Owosso.

Marie Tolksdorf is working in the doctor's office at DeWitt.

Ina Peltier is staying at home.

SOMETHING NEW!

A decided change for the better has been made in the DeWitt High School. Instruments which will help in the study of Biology and also next year's General Science course, have been ordered from the Central Scientific Company, Chicago, Ill. Articles ordered were such as, reagents dissecting, examining and measuring instruments, test tubes, pipettes, ring stands, alcohol burners, aquarii and other biological instruments. Cases, which will contain specimens and the equipment, are going to be placed along the north side of the high school room. The reason for this change can easily be explained. It is done to put the students who graduate from DeWitt on a par with other high schools. It is the hope of the students to prosper as well with these new conditions as they would in a twelve-grade school.

Francis Klaver: "Tell all you know. It won't take long."

Francis Brainerd: "I'll tell all we both know. It won't take any longer."



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GIRLS' GLEE CLUB

There are now 15 members of the Glee Club: Gertrude Voisinet, Eleanor Smalley, Ida Rickman, Roberta Moon, Evelyn Courtland, Evelyn Marsh, Virginia Cutler, Ruth Marzke, Rhoda Reynolds, Maxie Balluff, Virginia Stanton, Evelyn Gibson, Margaret Tolksdorf, Doris Stevens, Wiona Farrier, Dorothy Newman.

There has been a change made in the time of meeting. The club used to meet at 4 p. m. on Wednesday. Now it meets at 8 a. m. The songs we are practicing now are "Mighty Lak' a Rose" and "Barcarolle."

ORCHESTRA

The members of the orchestra meet Tuesday and Thursday of each week, at 8 o'clock. They surely are making improvements in their orchestra work. They have made an addition of a saxophone and clarinet. We almost believe that before long they will be playing two encores instead of one, if they keep up the rate they are going now.

The members of the orchestra are:

Lyle Helfrich—First violin.
Eleanor Smalley—First violin.
Francis Brainerd—First violin.
Francis Klaver—Second violin.
John Reust—Second violin.
Virginia Suratt—Second violin.
Clyde Casada—Saxophone.
Roy Shaffley—French horn.
Max Ellwanger—Banjo.
Donald Forward—Drum.
Rhoda Reynolds—Piano.
Virginia Cutler—Clarinet.
Mrs. Booth—Clarinet.

STUDENTS ATTEND FOOTBALL GAMES

On September 28 many DeWitt High School pupils and the teachers met at the above stated school. A trip to Ann Arbor had been planned. The university was playing football with both Albion and Mount Union colleges.

After very little difficulty, the crowd arrived at the stadium. The first game, played between Albion and the university, was not very interesting. Michigan won by having thirty-nine scores to Albion nothing. Mount Union played a little better game, but Michigan was the best of the three. Here the score was sixteen and six in Michigan's favor.

The band was very good. Dressed in their blue and yellow uniforms they looked very nice.

The DeWitt crowd arrived home about 9 o'clock.

Dad: "How did you make it in your examination in History?"

Clyde C.: "Not so good! But what can be expected? They asked me a lot of things that took place before I was born."

INTERMEDIATE ROOM

(Concluded from Page 3)

Howard Courtland, Mary Reed, John Schultz, Warren Wager, Ralph Ward, Thelma Welton, Fay Ellen Cutler, Bobby Hamond, A. B. Peltier, Bobby Schultz, Donald Schultz, Russell Yanz, Earl Klaver, Helen Krass, Edna Ribby, Norena Rossow, Willard Scarles, Rowella Schultz, Levis Sibley, June Stampfly, Lillian Stanton and Charles Surratt have been in school every day.

* * *

Lawrence Ward, a fifth grade pupil, has been absent three weeks with a broken leg. The boys and girls will be glad to have him back soon.

—o—

PRIMARY ROOM

Little Jean Shaffer visited the primary room.

Richard Brainerd, Sylvia Surratt, Marjorie Brooks, Norman Smalley and Ila Ward were absent because of illness.

* * *

Richard Decker entered the kindergarten two weeks ago.

* * *

Duane Florian, Helen Beth Moon, Donovan Strong, Donovan Ellwanger, Richard Marsh, Elaine Richmond, Doris Henning, Eleanor Lewis, Ruth White and Mary Furgala sang at the Ladies' Aid Society on Wednesday of last week.

TEACHER'S INSTITUTE

(Concluded from Page 4)

is hoped all teachers have shown the state how much they appreciated the opportunity by having attended the meeting.

During the business meeting all teachers discussed a better way of doing things. It was a good thing for all teachers to attend. The public can be assured they have many new ideas after attending this meeting.

NEAR AND FAR

(Concluded from Page 5)

CHURCH NEWS

Every Sunday evening beginning November 3 there will be services held at the church. This will be continued until April.

* * *

Friday evening, October 18, the young people held a meeting at the home of Mrs. Ranney. While there the young people's department was organized.

—o—

Mr. Kleinert: "What time is it by the end of your nose?"

Clarence Day: "Mine ain't running, is yours?"

—o—

Nothing in human life can afford a liberal mind more rational and exquisite satisfaction than the approbation of a wise, a great, and a virtuous man.

—o—

Exaggerated speech, fault-finding, tardiness, procrastination, "white lies"; these have kept many a man from success, and from happiness.



Student: And poor Harry was killed by a revolving crane.

Englishwoman: My word! What fierce birds you have in America.

* * *

There, now, said the suburbanite to his wife, you've ordered flower seeds that take two years to bloom.

Mind your business, she replied, this is last year's catalogue.

* * *

Visitors were present.

Daddy, may I have a dime? asked little Georgie. Dad obliged with a smile.

This time you won't make me give it back after the company's gone, will you, Daddy? was little Georgie's loud remark.

* * *

A man called me handsome, yesterday, said a rather elderly woman to her minister. Do you think it is sinful for me to feel a little proud of the compliment?

Not at all, madam, replied the minister. "It's the man who is the sinner, not you."

* * *

Boy Scout (to elderly lady): May I accompany you across the street, madam?

Elderly Lady: Certainly, sonny. How long have you been waitin' here for somebody to take you across?

* * *

The minute the dentist touched Mandy's tooth she commenced to scream.

Hush, said the dentist, Don't you know I am a painless dentist?

Maybe you is painless, said Mandy, but I ain't.

* * *

Mother: Robert, you're a naughty boy. You can just go to bed without your supper.

Bobby: Well, Mother, what about that medicine I've got to take after meals?

* * *

Make your story short, said the busy grocer to the traveling salesman.

How can I, replied the latter. I'm selling cereals.

* * *

My boy, said a police sergeant pompously to a friend of his, you can't say I am lazy. Look at these stripes. I didn't get these by loafing about the street and outside public houses.

No, the other answered with a smile, I know you didn't get them in that way, or you'd be a zebra by now.

* * *

Salesman: Something in golf apparel, madam?

Lady: I would like to see some handicaps. Large size, please. My husband said that if he'd had a big enough handicap yesterday, he'd have won the match.

* * *

Tourist: I've come here for the winter.

Californian: Well, you've come to the wrong place. There's no winter here.

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