

# GREENBELT COOPERATOR



VOLUME 5, NUMBER 39

MAY 16, 1941

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

FIVE CENTS

## Cooperator Revamped; New Board Selected

That the make-up, policies and personnel of the Cooperator were subjected to critical scrutinizing last Thursday evening at the office of the paper, during which three new board members were elected, a new editorial policy determined and a buffet supper fresh out of the woman's page was served.

Elected to the Board of Directors were Mr. Sol Shub, Mr. Frank Penn and Mrs. Allan Arness. The selection was made by closed ballot.

Editor Francis Fosnight followed the election with a critical discussion of the Cooperator, its form and content. That there was room for improvement was the unanimous opinion of the twenty seven staff members present. The liveliest part of the meeting commenced when the editor asked for suggestions for improvement in the town paper.

Mr. Jack Schaeffer headline writer complained that the news as reported was without soul and objected to being compelled to pore through a maze of dry stuff to dig out headlines. Editor Fosnight promptly scotched the mutiny by appointing Mr. Schaeffer rewrite man.

To illustrate the new editorial policy the Editor read a rough copy of the editorial for the next issue for the approval of the staff. After some discussion it was decided to delete a few remarks addressed to the citizenry which were regarded as unprintable. Mr. Fosnight subsided after complaining that "James Farrel got away with it."

Several new assignments were made to fortify weak spots and to fill needs. Mr. Leroy Smith, of 54-F Crescent Road was appointed as artist for the paper and Mr. Sol Shub given the added job of rewriting news. Several other shifts in duties were made mainly in the news gathering department.

## Health Association Revises Schedule

Beginning on June 1, 1941, office hours at the Greenbelt Health Association will be by appointment only, except in cases of emergency treatment. This will apply both to members of the Health Association and non-members. Appointments may be made by calling the Association nurse, Mrs. Henes, at Greenbelt 2121, or by calling personally at the offices. Persons desiring appointments are requested to telephone, in advance, either before or after, but not during, office hours. Those who wish to obtain information from the doctors over the phone are also asked to make their calls at a time other than during office hours.

It is hoped that these changes in procedure will expedite office hours and will eliminate long periods of waiting on the part of the patients. The Health Association staff wishes to emphasize that the appointment system will in no way interfere with the prompt treatment of all emergency cases.

A new office hour schedule is being planned and will be published in the near future. Until further announcement the present schedule will continue in effect. Any change in hours will be publicized in the Cooperator and in the Health Association Bulletin.

## COOPERATION ?



## EDITORS NOTE !

Last Wednesday the managers of our Co-op offered door prizes to get members out to a quarterly meeting which was to govern the operations of a \$400,000 business. The prizes were drawn, the audience thinned out and a quorum no longer existed.

This forlorn situation is not merely an example of the poor showmanship of the management. Something is terribly wrong with you, the People of Greenbelt, when your interest in the management of your stores begins and ends with the door prize.

When we stop and consider the efforts of other Americans to form cooperatives to better their standard of living, we feel ashamed for the people of Greenbelt. Throughout these United States, small groups of people are banding together to form buying and selling groups, because they have learned from bitter experience that only through their cooperative efforts can they get an even break. The organizers of these Co-ops have not thought of personal gain other than that which they could obtain for every member. They give freely of their time, efforts and money. They ask nothing more than they work for. To these Americans, the backbone of the Cooperative movement, we take off our hats.

Here in Greenbelt conditions are ideal for a perfect cooperative. All that is needed is the desire of the people to participate, in the GOVERNMENT OF THEIR OWN AFFAIRS. To say that the spending of almost a half million dollars of your money is not your affair does not make sense, and that Mr. and Mrs. Greenbelt is what you shouted to the world last Wednesday night when you comfortably ignored the existence of YOUR CO-OP.

We must stop thinking of Greenbelt as a wholly local affair. We must stop allowing our petty differences to distort our vision. We must think of ourselves as a national symbol of an effort to create a socially workable community governed and operated by the people. We must remember that Greenbelt is the target of forces who hate the symbols of a changing psychology which affords the living proof of a government's ability to create something more than red tape. We must remember that one inch of failure in our ventures will furnish the fuel for the fires of opposition of those most interested in our failure. We must never let anyone say that we cannot operate our town and its business. We must never forget that Greenbelt is a light, in the world of cooperatives and that our failure would mean not simply the entrance of business for profit but, what is more serious, it would mean the set back of the whole cooperative movement.

Greenbelt will always be here. What kind of Greenbelt it will be will not be determined in the far-off future. You, Mr. and Mrs. Greenbelt must realize that Greenbelt is in peril because of your apathy. The Greenbelt of Cooperative stores, cooperative medicine and cooperative housing will be plowed under by your lack of interest, by your failure to help make your town work. You must realize that our Greenbelt of today is worth working for. Unless you know this our Greenbelt of tomorrow will become something we dread, something we ran away from when we moved to Greenbelt.

We have snorted and ranted at those who consistently refuse to take part in community affairs and refuse to help shoulder the slightest responsibilities. The only conclusion we can draw is that they are just not interested. To them then, the only thing we can ask is, if you do not like Greenbelt as a community, if you do not like the ideals for which Greenbelt stands, why then in the name of heaven do you continue to live here?

## G.C.S. Meeting Halted By Lack Of Quorum

The quarterly meeting of Greenbelt Consumer Services, held on May 7, was adjourned for lack of a quorum with only part of the business of the meeting completed. When the meeting was called to order at 8:30, over 200 members were present, as well as a number of non-members. When the quorum was requested by Fred Wilde, at 10:30, it was found that 162 members were present, still enough to constitute one of Greenbelt's best attended meetings, but some 30 short of a quorum.

There are unconfirmed rumors that a petition is being circulated calling for a special meeting of the membership to consider some or all of the unfinished business of the meeting. Forty members (5 percent) can require a special meeting through a petition therefor.

Business completed at the meeting included decisions by the membership to increase the maximum dividend rate on shares of stock from 3 to 5 percent and to continue the policy of permitting non-members to receive patronage returns in the form of credits toward shares in the cooperative. The membership's action in each case was that recommended by the board of directors.

Also recommended by the board, and approved by the membership, was a proposal to authorize the expenditure of \$3,000 for initial steps in expansion of the cooperative. Because building plans for the defense homes are indefinite at present, the directors felt that they could not be very specific regarding any expansion proposals for the time being.

They did want to be in a position, however, to take such action as may seem most appropriate to the needs of the situation. It was felt that it may be desirable to expand some facilities before another quarterly meeting is to be held. In this connection, three possibilities were mentioned:

First, a filling station at the intersection of Edmonston and Branchville Roads, near the high school; second, improvements and possible enlargement of the lunch counter in the drug store; and, third, providing facilities at construction sites for feeding workers on the defense building project.

## Audit Committee Elected

The three members elected to the auditing committee were Wallace D. Dunlap, Joseph Bargas, and Bernard Jones. The latter two, having served on the committee the term of which was expiring, were reelected. Others nominated were Oscar Lightner, Sol Shub, Marvin Wofsey, and C.J. Van Camp.

The auditing committee, it was pointed out, is an independent group of three members selected by and responsible to the membership only. While the board is responsible for the operation of the cooperative between membership meetings, the auditing committee has rather great responsibilities and powers, providing the membership with an independent check upon the actions of the board and management.

It has the power to suspend directors and call special membership meetings should conditions warrant. Among the functions of the committee are its checks of financial reports, inventories, and stock rooms to see that everything is in proper order.

It was during the discussion of the proposal made by the auditing committee that board members be paid \$2 per board meeting, but not more than \$14 per quarter, that the absence of a quorum was suggested and a count demanded by Mr. Wilde. A few of the members who were present were not included in the count because they failed to raise their voting cards during the count.

Mr. Wilde stated that he favored adjournment because he felt that the membership had already spent enough of the cooperative's funds. The meeting was therefore adjourned for lack of a quorum, leaving the question of paying directors and the matter of employing a board member as "unfinished business."

Continued on page 2

## Need A Job? See Co-op Office

The management of Greenbelt Consumer Services has announced that it will receive applications from anyone interested in becoming an employee of the organization. It is likely that it will be necessary to fill several jobs within a short time.

Two of the jobs which may be open soon, and for which women will be considered, are checking in the food store and soda fountain work. Applications for other positions will be considered also.

Anyone interested may apply at the cooperative's office located over the drug store.

## Transportation For 500

Greenbelt Citizens Association brings to the attention of Greenbelt that its Transportation Committee has during the past three months arranged for more than five hundred riders to reach their places of employment safely and according to Uncle Sam's time table. This has been a tedious and tiresome job. Mr. Shub, Committee Chairman, has had some of the most unusual requests. He further states "that although I am ready and willing to assist my neighbors and friends in Greenbelt I am handicapped by the lack of cooperation that has been shown 'til now. Please notify me when you have made connections."

# GREENBELT COOPERATOR

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

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Editor ..... Francis Fosnight

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## Letters to Editor

Dear Editor,

Re, Ellen White's articles in the Present Truth, "another reader", appears to have missed the point of my first letter, or has deliberately sidestepped the issue.

However tolerant "another reader's" own outlook, I am certain that he has failed to read articles I and IV of the series—and if he would "dig into" these issues, he would discover numerous phrases that would not look too flattering when published, underscored, in our own "Cooperator."

I doubt if he then would call "malicious intent," an earnest desire to register a legitimate complaint. For would he then fervently proclaim, "I hope to see more of it!"

Furthermore, even if we were to presume that White argues on the basis of true premises, the aforementioned articles carry a certain flavor which can hardly be misinterpreted.

Respectfully,

A Reader.

Dear Editor,

Please inform the Food Store that if they're going to charge 12½¢ for an avocado pear, they should at least choose pears that aren't spoiled rotten, because after all, we can't open the pears in the store to see if they are fresh. Maybe they'd listen if they knew how many women go into town every chance they get, to buy food that is reasonably priced and vegetables that are up to a decent standard of freshness, or if they saw the many delivery trucks in Greenbelt, delivering groceries from Greenbelt Consumers' competitors.

And, why do Greenbelt mothers have to wait at our up-to-date soda fountain while the clerks carry on extended conversation with high-school girls who have nothing else to do.

A Consumer.

## G.C.S. Meeting Halted By Lack Of Quorum

(Cont'd from page one)

The director with whose employment the last item on the agenda was concerned was Walter P. Volckhausen, president of the cooperative. The by-laws require that a director may become an employee of the cooperative within a year after his term only with the express approval of the membership.

After adjournment, Mr. Volckhausen made a statement pointing out that he had resigned from his position at the University of Maryland to make cooperatives his life work, and that he hoped to find a position in the field of cooperatives which would enable him to remain in Greenbelt.

He stated that adjournment of the meeting would make it impossible for him to be employed by G.C.S. because he would have to locate himself a position before the next membership meeting in August.

It was indicated that George E. Hodsdon, general manager of Greenbelt Consumer Services, had planned to propose that Mr. Volckhausen be made educational director of the cooperative.

Mr. Volckhausen stated that since it would no longer be possible for him to serve as educational director, he felt free to stress to the membership the need for such an employee whose functions should be to help expand the static volume in the food store and to promote sales in other G.C.S. stores, to point out consumer values to be found in higher margin Co-op products, and to increase interest in and understanding of the local cooperative.

He stated that an effective promotional and educational program should much more than pay for itself, and that the most successful cooperatives are those which have had the best educational programs.

Greenbelt Consumer Services has been credited with a 1940 patronage return of \$492 by the Eastern Cooperative Wholesale, George S. Hodsdon, general manager of G.C.S., announced to the directors at last week's board meeting. This amount represents a return of 1.25 percent on a total of \$39,341 worth of purchases made by G.C.S. from the Wholesale.

The relationship between the Greenbelt Consumer Services and Eastern Cooperative Wholesale is the same as that between local patrons of the stores and G.C.S. The local co-op, being a member of the Wholesale, receives each year a share of that organization's net earning.

## Co-op Membership Increased, Earnings Drop

Outstanding among the achievements of Greenbelt Consumer Services during the first quarter of 1941 was an 82 percent increase in membership, resulting largely from the issuance of the patronage return for 1940, it was announced at the quarterly membership meeting held on May 7. On January 1 this year the cooperative had 418 members and on March 29 it had 763, an increase of 345 members.

The total business transacted by G.C.S. during the first quarter amounted to \$96,000, an increase of about 13 percent over the same period in 1940. The net savings, however, were about 30 percent below last year's for the first quarter. Efforts are being made, it was stated, to improve the situation.

The decrease in net earnings during the quarter, stated the president's report to the membership, resulted from three conditions: First, a loss of \$372 in the new variety store, a loss which was to be anticipated in a new store and which should be materially reduced in the second quarter.

Second, a marked decrease in the gross margin of the lunch counter, a situation which is being corrected. Third and primarily, from generally inadequate margins in the food store caused, as previously stated in the Cooperator, by increases in wholesale prices of foodstuffs—unaccompanied by corresponding increases in retail prices—resulting in lowered margins.

It was reported that the major source of difficulty in the food store has been remedied by the complete revamping of the meat department, which has had a favorable result. Food store margins are being watched carefully, and a gradual improvement is being effected, it was stated.

Aside from the food store, which also showed a slight decrease in sales as compared with the first quarter of last year, a fact which when considered in connection with increased prices indicates a somewhat greater drop in volume of goods handled, the several departments of G.C.S. showed increases in gross sales.

Other actions taken by the board during the past quarter included paying Consumer Distribution Corporation \$1,000 on account; securing C.D.C.'s consent to waive during 1941 the clause of the financial agreement requiring payment to C.D.C. of the net amount received on shares, to make possible an effective share drive keyed to the expansion needs of the cooperative.

It was stated that the membership's investment in Greenbelt Consumer Services now amounts to more than half of C.D.C.'s, as compared to one-tenth when the cooperative was organized in January, 1940.

It was also announced at the membership meeting that G. Edward Timmons had been appointed to the board to fill the vacancy resulting when Lindsey Thomas left Greenbelt several months ago, and that Mr. Timmons is chairman of the price-checking committee—to which problems concerning prices should be directed.

There were two Better Buyers displays in the auditorium. On one table was a display of two meals, both having the same caloric value, but one costing much less than the other. The drug store items on which the Better Buyers have placed their "Best Buy" labels were also displayed. The taste test of Co-op cola vs. Coca Cola resulted in 49 first choices for Coca Cola to 29 for Co-op cola.

Winners of the door prizes were William Siegel, Co-op mixer; Mrs. Cleire Panagoulis, Co-op hand vacuum cleaner; Mrs. Oscar Lightner, waffle iron; and Mrs. Margaret Parkfield, toaster.

## Exhibit Shows School At Its Best

An outstanding accomplishment by Greenbelt Elementary School was the science exhibit in the Auditorium on May 14, which caused much favorable comment. The wide variety of interests centering around social science subjects included displays explaining human conservation, geologic history, defense, mining, and wild life conservation.

Many actual scale models showed graphically topics of interest. These included an Oklahoma oilwell and refinery plant constructed by Richard Sommers, a model of a lumber camp with saw mill and transportation facilities, carefully made plaster models of Boulder Dam and Bonneville Dam, and a built-up model showing the various stages in the development of the earth's crust with clay models of early reptilian life.

A collection of well drawn sketches by Tim Evans of animal life from early geologic history and of primitive man, and color studies of insects done by Leonard Le Mire contributed to the biological section. Much talent in drawing, collecting of valuable information, and fine note book work was evidenced in each exhibit.

In the section developed by the younger children was a collection of small animals including kittens, rabbits, a duck, a small alligator, turtles, pollywogs etc. The children of this younger group presided over a flower show and pinned tiny corsages on the visiting mothers. Of especial interest to your reporter was a well-constructed airplane large enough for two small children to sit in made by the kindergarten class.

## Neighborhood Day Next Sunday

Sunday, May 18 will be "Neighborhood Day" in the Community Men's Class. Every member is being urged to contact his neighbor and invite him to attend. The lesson will be taught by Mr. Roy S. Braden. The program also includes a gospel song service and other special music.

## FINAL CHAPTER IN STORY OF CO-OP

There follows the third and last article of this series on the G.C.S. booklet prepared for distribution to newcomers to this community. The Cooperator reprinted the booklet because of its possible interest to many so-called "old timers" as well as newcomers.

### CHAPTER IV THE BUSINESS RECORD OF THE CO-OP FOR THE YEAR 1940

During its first year of operation, in 1940, the Greenbelt Cooperative operated a food store, drug store, service station, valet shop, movie, barber shop and beauty parlor. Toward the end of 1940 it opened a garage, and early in 1941 the variety store was opened.

The total sales of the Cooperative for the year 1940 amounted to \$376,000. All the enterprises contributed to the net saving, or net earning, of \$9,667, of which \$7000 was returned to patrons in the annual patronage return.

Our Cooperative has some fifty employees, who are our neighbors too. Salaries for 1940 totaled about \$60,000. Rentals paid for the Greenbelt stores amounted to about \$15,000.

With plans now afoot for doubling the number of homes in Greenbelt, it is expected that there will be a marked increase in the volume of the business of the Cooperative, and in the services which it will be able to render to its patrons.

That, in a few words, is the story of our Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative—a mere fledgling we must confess, but a husky bird and promising, if we do say so.

If we have told our story well, there should be little need for the final chapter, in which we try to answer the question.....

### CHAPTER V WHY JOIN THE GREENBELT COOPERATIVE?

The Greenbelt Cooperative is a community enterprise, run by neighbors for neighbors. As such it can and should justify its existence by—

1. Providing for Greenbelters the economics of group buying—symbolized by the Co-op label, on commodities bought in conjunction with a million other members of consumer cooperatives.

2. Offering reliable goods at fair prices, and offering honest weights and honest measures—for there is no point in deception when we are selling to ourselves. For this reason, too, we sell U.S. Government graded meats, and for this reason the Co-op label, whenever possible, specifies a government grade.

3. Giving us all the opportunity to work with our neighbors for a common end.

4. Aiding in the development of a democratic form of business, designed for service to customers rather than profit to owners.

The strength of our Cooperative, and the extent of the services it can render us, are determined by the loyalty of its members. We hope that you will take your stand beside us.

## Council Votes \$200 For July 4

If—after next Fourth of July anyone in Greenbelt cannot say he just had one of the best times in his life, then it will be a sure sign he did his celebrating out of town. The Citizen's Association is making big plans for everyone and last Monday night the Town Council of Greenbelt made sure everyone would have a popping good time by appropriating \$200 for fireworks. The Council suggested that some of the money might be used for other things such as prizes. It was rumored that while they were voting for the \$200, some of the Council members had in the back of their heads a vision of being allowed to shoot off at least one of the fire-crackers.

Of more immediate concern to the citizens was the amendment to the swimming pool ordinance. The price of the family pass remains at \$6.00 but the payment this year will be cut to two payments. A payment of \$3.00 may be made when the pass is purchased and the remaining \$3.00 must be paid by July 2, 1941. All passes and admissions will remain at last years prices.

The Council passed a resolution requesting Farm Security to allow workers in other defense agencies to rent the new houses rather than to limit the houses to Navy yard workers.

## Legion Plans Poppy Day Observance

Memory of America's war dead in the first World War will be honored here on Saturday, May 24, when everyone will be asked to wear a memorial poppy in tribute to their service and sacrifice.

Plans for the observance of Poppy Day are being completed by the Greenbelt Unit 136 of the American Legion Auxiliary under the leadership of Mrs. Thomas Freeman, Poppy Day Chairman. The memorial flowers, made by disabled war veterans, will be offered on the streets throughout the day by the Auxiliary women.

"The poppies which the Auxiliary will distribute here have been made by disabled veterans. All Poppy Day workers will serve as volunteers and all of the money contributed to them for the flowers will go into the welfare funds of the Auxiliary to carry forward the Auxiliary's work for the disabled, their families and the families of the dead during the year ahead."

## Cook Contest Will Liven Culinary Class

One of the big features of the cooking school to be held next Thursday and Friday, May 22 and 23, in the home economics room of the Greenbelt Elementary School, as announced in last week's Cooperator, is the cooking contest for the ladies. The contest will be held on Friday, and prizes will be awarded to the three persons having the three best entries.

Details of the contest are as follows: Anyone attending the school may prepare a salad and take it to the home economics room not later than 1 o'clock Friday. There may be three varieties entered: Tossed salad (green vegetables mixed with dressing); molded salad (example, a cheese salad); or jellied salad (any gelatin salad).

The salads will be judged by Mrs. Turner, chief dietitian of the Potomac Electric Power Company, who will be in charge of the cooking school. They are to be judged on the basis of their practicability, wholesomeness, and attractiveness. Each salad is to contain at least one Co-op product.

The salads are to be placed in the ladies' own dishes. After the school is over, each of the women will take her own salad for home use. All questions regarding the contest will be answered during the Thursday session of the cooking school.

Mrs. Turner is donating the prizes for this contest. As announced last week, first prize is a whole baked ham. The other two prizes will be announced on the first day of the school. Besides the three prizes for the contest, there will be many door prizes each day.

The time for taking the salad to the home economics room for entry in the contest was stressed by Mrs. Ella G. Roller, chairman of the education committee, Greenbelt Consumer Services, which is sponsoring the cooking school. The judging will be done during the hour before the school begins.

Those that are interested are reminded that the school will be held from 2 to 4 o'clock each afternoon, and that a nursery will be operated for the children.

## Dr. Berenberg To Advise Mothers

At a leaders meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Bernice Brautigam 3-B Parkway, Monday, May 19 8:30 a discussion will be held on best buys in "Baby Needs." Dr. Berenberg will be present to advise and answer questions on the use and quality of such items as baby oil, talcum, borax and other items generally obtained at the drug store. Housewives who have not been active in Better Buyer neighborhood groups are invited to attend this meeting.

## "Fight For Life" Comes Here

According to advance reports, Greenbelt will be treated to unusual screen fare when the local theater shows "The Fight For Life", a documentary film on the medical needs of the underprivileged mothers-to-be, written by Paul De Kruif and directed by Pere Lorentz. The unusual talent of the author and director has made of this important subject an historical screen version which will not soon be forgotten by those who witness it.



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## MRS. GREENBELT



## OUR NEIGHBORS

By Patty Beebe

Hello Greenbelt:

Congratulations go this week to Dr. James McCarl of 7-D Crescent, who has just been elected President of the Southern Maryland Dental Society.

Visiting in Greenbelt this week we have Mr. George H. Sterling of Annapolis, Maryland who is spending a week with his daughter, Mrs. Carrie Linhardt of 2-H Westway. \*\*\*And Mr. 'n Mrs. J.M. Duncan of Petersburg, Virginia are the several-day guests of Mrs. Peggie Arness of 3-H Ridge. \*\*\*Frank Loftus, eldest son of Mrs. Winfield Mc Camy, Town Clerk, breezed into town on a motorcycle to spend the week-end with his family. He returned Sunday to New York where he is working for the Federal Surplus Commodities.

On our travel list we have Mrs. E. J. Mahoney and son Patrick of 2-A Ridge who are visiting Mrs. Mahoney's Dad, Dr. G. I. Humphreys in Highpoint, N.C. They will be there about three weeks.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Eleanore Gluck has moved away from Greenbelt where she has been staying with her brother, Ed Walther, of 35-L Ridge. She has taken an apartment in Washington which means she'll still be available to her many friends here.

Have you noticed the numerous males around A block lately? Armed with lawn mowers, hedge clippers, paint and other neighborhood beautifiers. I'll bet a lot of annual leave has been used up. One of these men, Joe Bargas, got a very red face for his trouble. He went to Peggy Arness to borrow her lawn mower and she gave him the key to her garage at 1 Crescent. Taking the key he made his way to Garage No. 1. He used the key and took out the lawn mower and was wheeling it down the path when a little girl started screaming, "Mama, a man is taking our lawn mower, Mama." Mama came out and wanted to know just what he thought he was doing with her lawn mower. Poor Joe proceeded to explain that it certainly was Peggy Arness' and it was her garage. The woman disagreed quite vehemently and Joe, to be diplomatic, explained that the key had fitted her lock so she'd better check on that — was told quickly that the garage was not locked, but just had the lock in the hook. Joe looked at the mower which had begun to look a little different from usual; so then, thoroughly baffled, he went back to Peggy, who drew him a diagram of just where her garage was, and discovered he had gone to Garage No. 1 Ridge.

Mrs. Marian Moore is now ill with Measles after successfully nursing her youngsters through the same plus Chicken Pox and Scarlet Fever. We hope it is just a mild attack and that our prize ball player "Big Bill" Moore will remain immune. It is trite but true that when it rains it pours. Address all condolences to 4-H Ridge Road. \*\*\*We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Adolph Juhl of 13-K Ridge, is ill with the mumps. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Mr. Leroy Smith of 54-J Crescent has just joined our staff and is responsible for the very nice work you see this issue and subsequent issues to come. Mr. Smith, originally from Illinois, studied Art under the Dutch Artist, Jules Kerhottein in New York for a while, and in Washington he worked as a commercial artist on the staff of the Evening Star. His present position deals with another phase of Art, photography.

## RECIPES

By Peggy Bargas

Honey Date Bars

1 cup honey	¼ teaspoon salt
3 eggs	¾ cup bran
½ cup flour	1 pkge. dates, chopped
1 teaspoon baking powder	1 cup nuts, chopped

Add honey to the well beaten eggs and mix thoroughly. Add the flour mixed and sifted with the baking powder and salt. Add bran, dates and nuts. Spread about half inch thick in a shallow, well greased tin and bake in a moderate oven 350 degrees, for 45 minutes. Cool cut in strips. These date bars are actually at their best if kept in a covered jar for about two weeks before cutting. Roll each bar in powdered sugar.

## Play Games With Children Pre-School Mothers Told

Mrs. Marion Moore gave a thoro discussion of the topic "Home Play Program" for all ages of pre-school children at the May meeting of the Pre-school Mothers Club which was held at the home of Mrs. Carol Bourne at 3-K Eastway.

Mrs. Moore suggested that parents spend more time "at play" with their children, at least one half hour each day should be set aside for play and frolic with games which the children can enter into and easily understand. Mother Goose Rhymes are always a favorite past-time for the younger children. Phonograph records with nursery rhymes are especially good for rainy day diversions for the little tots and enables them to learn quickly by "feel of music". Building blocks of all types and sizes are essential and very educational, in aiding the pre-school child to acquaint himself with the alphabet as well as building various types of things for his amusement. All children should have a little "spot" of their own for play purposes where they can feel free to leave unfinished "make-believe" houses or bridges and return to them without them having been pushed aside by Mother or baby. A section of a room with a screen placed around it will give the youngster a little house of his own and at the same time, prevent cluttering up the entire household.

Following Mrs. Moore's interesting talk, officers for the coming year were nominated. Elections will be held at the June meeting. Mrs. L.P. Fern will be hostess to the Club at her home at 3-E Ridge Road on June 5th at 8:15. All members are urged to attend this final meeting.

## Gum Drop Co-op Essay Contest

An essay contest on the Gum Drop Co-op is being held this week in the Greenbelt Elementary School, under the sponsorship of the Education Committee of Greenbelt Consumer Services. All of the children in the school are participating, with those in the first grade making drawings as their contribution and all others writing essays. A shelf of literature on Cooperatives and consumer problems has been set up in the library to serve as reference material. Last week, lectures were given to the children on how the Gum Drop Co-op works and how it compares with Greenbelt Consumer Services and other cooperatives. Seven prizes will be awarded, one for the best work in each grade. Topics for the contest are: 1, "How the Gum Drop Co-op works," 2, "Why We Have a Gum Drop Co-op," 3, "Why We Call Our Store a Co-op," 4, "How The Gum Drop Co-op is like Greenbelt Consumer Services," and 5, "Co-ops Thrive Best in a Democracy".

The winning essays will be selected by a distinguished group of judges from the University of Maryland who include, Miss Edith McNaughten, Professor of Home Economics Education, Professor A. Marshall of the School of Commerce and Professor Arnold Joyal of the Department of Education.

A few grains of rice in the salt shaker will prevent salt from clogging during damp 'n rainy weather.

Try to hear Consumer Time Saturday, WRC, 11 A.M. (EST)

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### Meditations

by Robert Lee Kincheloe Minister to the Greenbelt Community Church

The following incident took place in the Tret-yokov Art Gallery in Moscow. A Mr. Burton Holmes asked the guide why the faces of the saints had been turned to the wall. The Guide explained to him in a whisper that there is no need that they, the saints, should know of the evil day that has fallen upon Russia. "Someday", he further explained, "when Russia is different and times are better, we shall turn their faces to the front again; but not today."

I have heard many relate the strange feeling that comes over them as they enter the Lincoln Memorial. We may thank God that no power has yet forced our revered political saint, Mr. Abraham Lincoln, to face the other way. There is something mighty challenging about that brooding pose of the great man within those pillared walls. The movie, "Mr. Smith Goes To Washington," gave it to the public in a very dramatic way. However, there have been times and there are occasions right now, when our politicians and our citizens might feel better if the faces of Lincoln and Washington were turned to the wall. They shouldn't know of the cheapness of ideals and the abundant treachery that has outraged our nation. But they do rebuke us, as one has said, "with their steady gaze, and shame us with their faith."

May we turn to these saints of the past. Take a walk into the Lincoln Memorial occasionally, is the advice of those who constantly put themselves under the tension of keeping faith with their ideals. "They can help us keep faith with the best."

### COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

It was indeed a thrilling sight last Sunday morning to see the children—boys and girls of our Community—bringing their Mothers to Church. Even after the Junior Church part of the Service was over many of them returned to their seats and sat through the entire service with their Mothers. I am firmly convinced that such an experience was not only good for the children but for the parents as well. I am sure the minister was encouraged. May we have more Parents' Days!

### Community Health

S.R. Berenberg, M.D., Director DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

It is possible to compare the development of a child with the growth of a plant without being too romantic in choosing your figure of speech. Most plants need sunlight for sturdy, healthy growth. Children need the light of the sun for healthy physical growth, too. But there is another type of sunlight which children need to bask in just as much as they need the rays of the celestial orb. Such sunlight is appreciation by the adults of the family. Nothing so deeply mars a child and puts him out of harmony with the world about him as to have something he thinks important disregarded or laughed at by his parents. Such a need is felt very early in child life. Approbation for good conduct, expressed by a smile or an encouraging word is a better preventative of bad conduct than any punishment that can be devised later. In a home environment where children learn to expect parental interest, the mere omission of approval becomes more effective than a spanking.

This type of stimulation of development must continue in order to be constructive, must extend from expressions of praise for good behavior to appreciations for all strivings to achieve. When the child first assays the adventures of experiment with colored crayon and paper and proudly brings the crawly hieroglyphics to mother or father, the wise parent will express unbounded admiration for "the work of art". The childish heart will thrill with pride and a little spark of ambition to make even more beautiful markings, will be lit. The parent who acts indifferent is thwarting a most necessary trait of that child's development, the desire to achieve something that is worthwhile and pleasing. Never must a parent say, "That's nothing. Johnny can draw real pictures and yours is only a scrawl". Later when the relationship of consultation on achievements has become a real working bond, the parent may suggest improvements, or criticize reasonably, may point out that only a certain paper should be used for art work, not the insides of story books, etc.

The crayon in the hand of a small child may become a weapon of destruction or a creative tool. Not that every child is going to become an artist because the parents encourage his play with crayons. But he is going to grow up with an attitude of mind that is constructive and a habit pattern that makes him strive always to do the best he can.

The parent reaps immediate benefits from the kind of attention they pay to a child's efforts. The child who has been discouraged from playing with crayons or pencils because no one cared about his handiwork or ridiculed it, is usually the child who is a nuisance on a rainy, cold day, who "just can't amuse himself when he has to be in the house." The busy happy child who can find enjoyable pursuits inside the home is not only the integrated adult of tomorrow but the good child of today.

### G.C.A. To Sponsor Refugee Children

The Citizens' Association Committee on Vacations for Refugee Children announced that at the last meeting of the Citizens' Association sponsorship of another vacation this year for refugee children was voted.

In a letter received after the meeting from the Summer Placement for Refugee Children of New York it was stated that there are a large number of children from Belgium, Holland and France, as well as Germany and Austria, and that many of them have come over in recent months. The letter further said that, since the vacation work is now centrally administered, it should be possible to satisfy specifications as to age, sex, etc., with little difficulty, as there are a considerable number of applications for vacations for the little refugees.

The committee requests that those interested in extending their hospitality to these emigre children communicate with the chairman of the committee, the Reverend Robert Lee Kincheloe, or with Mrs. Thomas F. McNamara or Mrs. Abraham Chasanow at once.

### Kiddies To Get The Once Over

Physical and dental examinations will be given by Dr. Berenberg and Dr. McCarl to all children entering kindergarten in the fall, according to an announcement by Mrs. Joseph A. Long, Chairman of the Summer Round up Committee of the Greenbelt Elementary School. Parents should bring their children to the school on Monday, May 19th, Thursday, May 22nd, and Friday, May 23rd from 9:00 to 10:00 A.M. for this examination.

Definite appointments have been given those children who had a preliminary check up the week of May 12th. Those children who did not have a preliminary check up and who have no definite appointment may be examined on any of the three days mentioned above.

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