

Why Can't We?

One of the arguments which on the surface sounds like a good reason for keeping the electric utility is, "if Indiana-Michigan can make money distributing power here, why can't we?"

At first this sounds hard to answer. But let's think a moment. First, we all realize that our little, city-owned plant, controlled by the electric light board, and the city council, is not, and will never be, as efficient as a private utility which must make money to survive. Indiana-Michigan will not send out five men to do one man's job. They will work efficiently, and cut the costs where they can.

Secondly, they will be producing the power very economically where fuel is cheap, and bringing it in on lines already built.

Also, while they will be operating here at a loss for a five-year period, this loss can be balanced against their profits elsewhere, and will reduce their taxes. Decatur has no other power operations to balance its loss against.

Also, Decatur already has an electric debt in bonds valued at \$672,000, which would have to be refinanced at higher interest rates, since no second mortgage is possible. Thus Decatur would have to use tax money or raise local rates to pay off the interest and retire the debt. Indiana-Michigan could use profit from other lines which are already operating profitably.

And biggest reason of all, Indiana-Michigan will aggressively build up use of electricity in this area by encouraging its use by home, farm, and industry, and even by helping industries locate here. This the city utility does not do.

So, while Indiana-Michigan may be able to begin in five years to make money by distributing power here, Decatur would only fall hopelessly deeper and deeper into public debt, discouraging property owners, business, and ruining the workers who depend on commerce and industry for their jobs.

Lose The Franchise?

Another argument against the sale of the electric plant is, "if we sell, we lose the franchise and can never regain it."

In the first place, the franchise is of value to us only as long as we can provide ourselves with cheap, dependable power in the quantity we need. We cannot do that. The power varies greatly from line to line, it is extremely expensive to the 1,000 rural customers who make up one-quarter of the users, and we can no longer produce anywhere near the quantity we need. Even that which we produce is more expensive than that which we buy.

Second, the franchise if granted to Indiana-Michigan is for an indeterminate period. This means that upon a justified petition of the users in this area, the franchise could be revoked by the public service commission. We do not mean to intimate that this would be easy—it would not. But it is possible, and would even by probable if rates or service became unbearable.

It is quite possible that the loss of the franchise might be more of a blessing than a loss. An improved electric outlook here would permit industry to expand, and aid the growth of our city. Cheap, reliable power is a real necessity. Who really believes that the ordinary "butcher, baker and candle-stick maker" who compose the groups that run the city utility, can compete in service or efficiency with electrical engineers and progressive businessmen?

TV PROGRAMS

Central Daylight Time

12:30—Amos and Andy
12:30—This Day 1959
12:45—Doug Edwards News
12:45—The Saturday Evening Post
12:45—Hit Parade
8:00—Rawhide
8:00—Phil Silvers Show
9:00—Line-Up
10:30—Person to Person
11:00—Wake Up and Live
SATURDAY

8:30—Agriculture U.S.A.
9:00—Kartoon Klub
9:30—Captain Kangaroo
10:30—The Green Room Theatre
11:30—Huckle & Jeckle
11:30—Robin Hood

Afternoon

12:30—The Rogers
12:30—O'Hearn Playhouse
1:30—Report from Washington
1:30—Award Matinee
4:30—My Little Margie
4:30—The Green Room Theatre
5:00—Masters Golf Tournament

Evening

6:00—Andy Oakley
6:30—The Big Show
7:30—Jeff's Collie
7:30—Perry Mason
8:30—Wanted: Dead or Alive
9:00—Hail, Storm
9:30—Huckle Will Travel
10:30—Flight
11:00—Les Misérable
SUNDAY

8:30—Christopher
9:00—Faith for Today
9:30—This Is the Life
9:30—Lady Unto a Man
10:30—Look Up and Live
11:00—Kartoon Club
12:00—Gene Autry

Morning

1:00—What's The Law
1:30—I U. E. W. Film
2:00—Talkback
3:00—Award Matinee
4:30—Small World
4:30—Masters Golf

Evening

6:00—Uncle Al
6:30—Gene Autry
12:30—Jungle Jim
12:30—Rocky Jones
12:30—The Lone Ranger
2:00—Brave Eagle
2:30—Action Theatre
4:30—TBA
5:00—Popeye
5:00—Golf

Evening

6:15—I Spy
6:30—The Rock Holmes
6:30—Confidential File
7:30—The Dick Clark Show
8:00—Jubilee U.S.A.
9:00—Lawrence Welk
10:00—Club 21

SUNDAY

6:00—Gateway to Sports
6:15—News, Jack Gray
6:22—Weather
6:25—NBC's Newsreel
6:30—State Trooper
7:30—Northwest Passage
8:00—Elmy Queen
9:30—The Thin Man
10:00—Boxing
10:30—Sports Center
11:00—Football and Weather
11:30—The Jack Parr Show
SATURDAY

6:00—Kit Carson
6:00—Bugs Bunny
10:00—Howdy Doody
10:30—Ruff and Reddy
11:00—Circus Boy
Afternoon

12:00—Sky King

WPTA-TV CHANNEL 21

FRIDAY

Evening

6:00—Fun 'N Stuff
6:30—Sports Reporting
7:30—Elton Tins
8:00—Walt Disney Presents

Afternoon

1:00—What's The Law
1:30—I U. E. W. Film
2:00—Talkback
3:00—Award Matinee
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MOVIES

ADAMS

"Up Periscope" Fri. at 7:17; 9:24;
Sat. 1:35; 3:42; 5:19; 7:56; 10:03

9:25 Mon. 7:56; 9:45
"Life Begins at 17" Sun. at 2:35

5:20 8:05 10:50 Mon. at 8:30

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The School Reporter

DECATUR CATHOLIC HIGH
by Theresa Laurent

After a five-day relaxing period, it is assumed that the D. C. H. S. students are once again ready to partake in scholastic activities. And everyone will remain content until May 7 and 8 when the school will pause to commemorate the temporal feast of Our Lord's ascension into Heaven. Until then, kids, be good!

The faculty of the Decatur Catholic schools spent Easter Monday in Defiance, Ohio, where the Sisters of St. Agnes held a centennial program. Defiance, as the oldest St. Agnes mission east of Chicago, was host to the other missions in Ohio and Indiana.

—D.C.H.S.—

April 7 marks the time for the Adams county volleyball tournament. Like other county youth, Decatur Catholic students are planning to participate in the events which will be held at Monmouth. D.C.H.S. boys will challenge Geneva in the 6:30 event while the girls oppose the Hartford group. Here's to you, kids! do your best.

—D.C.H.S.—

Scheduled for the 14th of April is the Adams county ping-pong tournament. It is to be held at Adams Central. Students may enter in the following events: boys singles and doubles, girls singles and doubles, and mixed doubles. It's not too late to sign up, kids, in case you're interested.

—D.C.H.S.—

DECATUR HIGH SCHOOL
By Kathy Schulitz

Once again the students of D.H.S. are back in the same old grind, after a much needed vacation. There are only eight weeks of school left and less than that for the seniors. Another school year is almost over!

—D. H. S. —

"Spring Swing," sponsored by the speech class of D.H.S., was a huge success Thursday night. One of the biggest crowds of the year was present at this dance. Door prizes were awarded to Eleanor Miller, Pat Franklin, and Larry DeLong. Thanks to the speech class for an enjoyable evening.

—D. H. S. —

Congratulations to Mike Donelly, the winner of the American Legion oratorical finals. The contest, held in Decatur for the second time, revealed four well qualified speakers. Good luck to Mike in his next contest!

—D. H. S. —

The girls volleyball team traveled to Berne Tuesday evening after school for a volleyball contest. Six seniors and three juniors, accompanied by Mrs. Worthman, made the trip. Decatur won 2 out of 4 games.

—D. H. S. —

Thursday after school the girls volleyball team will travel to Monmouth for a game there. This is the first time D.H.S. has ever competed against Monmouth. Good luck!

—D. H. S. —

Decatur's track team was defeated in its first meet of the season last Tuesday at Worthman Field. Concordia was our first opponent and proved too overpowering.

—D. H. S. —

D. H. S. won its first track meet Tuesday by defeating Pleasant Mills. Despite Pleasant Mills' wins in the mile, half mile, high jump and pole vault, Decatur managed an easy win.

—D. H. S. —

New Haven will be host to the Yellow Jackets Thursday in another track meet. The meet will be held about 4 o'clock, so let's try to get a few fans up there to support our team.

—D. H. S. —

The D. H. S. gymnasium, decorated as Mount Olympus, was the scene of the annual Latin-banquet Tuesday evening. Mike Drake as Jupiter and Noreen Egly as Juno reigned over the banquet.

—D. H. S. —

The group was entertained by a dance by the nine-musés, a flute trio composed of Mary Kocher, Julia Ellsworth, and Jackie Chew, and a singing trio composed of Julia Ellsworth, Karen Zimmerman, and Joyce Helm. The highlight of the program was a narration by Tom Grubl of "living" pictures of ten of the gods and goddesses. Tom Sharp and Larry Macklin performed as trumpeters and from all indications, it was an evening enjoyed by all.

—D. H. S. —

Attention juniors! Only one and a half weeks left to sell tickets to the junior class play. The boys are battling the girls for honors in the

ticket sales. Who will be the victor? The boys or the girls?

—D. H. S. —

MONMOUTH HIGH
by John Fuhrman

Testing time is here again for fifth to eighth graders. These students take achievement tests annually to determine their abilities. The results are then sent to the parents of the children. This program should promote better understanding between teachers and parents.

—M.H.S.—

"What subjects shall I take next year?" Last Monday this question was uppermost in the thoughts of about 39 eighth-graders, or freshmen-to-be, when they were given examinations to help them with their choices of elective courses. This testing program starts the student "off on the right foot" in high school and gives him valuable guidance.

—M.H.S.—

STRIKE ONE! Yes, it's baseball season again and the boys at Wren are at it heart and soul. From what we've seen there is evidence that this will be a good season for Wren.

—W.H.S.—

WREN HIGH SCHOOL
by Jo Ann Lichtensteiger

Now that the Easter bunny has done his work for another year his days may calm down. Days at school, however, still speed along. The freshmen are planning a spring dance, while the sophomores recuperate from their pre-Easter bake sale. The juniors are scheming and "theming" for the prom. Last but not least come the seniors, who are planning their class trip and dubiously looking at the near end of the school year.

—W.H.S.—

Remember! The junior class of M.H.S. will present "Meet me at the Prom," a three-act comedy, at the Monmouth auditorium, Friday at 8 o'clock. They will appreciate your attendance at this fine production.

—M.H.S.—

ADAMS CENTRAL HIGH
by Shirley Osterman

Early this Saturday morning (7:30) three Adams Central buses will start their journey to Greentown. This will be just the beginning of a busy day's schedule at the district band and chorus contest for Central's musicians and songsters.

The band and choir will be playing and singing until 2:30 p.m., when one or two of the buses will leave early for those interested in arriving home before the last bus.

Members of the glee club will sing at the Methodist church in Greentown at 4:30 p.m. and will then start home. Band members are reminded by director Don Gerig to be in full uniform, except for cap. Leon Gerig stated that the choir members are to wear white blouses and dark skirts or trousers.

—A.C.H.S.—

Grab your skates and come along! Yes, next Monday evening, the junior class will sponsor their annual spring skating party. Everyone at Central high is invited to attend this skate at Bell's skating rink in New Haven. Buses will be made available for those not able to go in a car. So why not purchase your ticket as soon as possible from the juniors, and have some fun while you help their treasury.

—A.C.H.S.—

After practicing after school every day this week, Central's girls' and boys' volleyball teams are ready to meet their Pleasant Mills rivals in the county volleyball tourney. All schools in the county will participate, with the exception of Decatur public. The tourney will be played in the Monmouth gym Tuesday, beginning at 6:30 p.m., and will be open to anyone interested in boosting their teams. Two small trophies will be awarded to the winning teams in both the girls' and boys' competition. Winners of each round of play will be determined by winning two out of three games. Good luck, Central!

—A.C.H.S.—

At least six Centralites are known to have scored high at the regional math and English contest last Saturday at Bluffton. Among competition from many other schools, senior Jim Hoffman was the only English entrant from Central to receive a first place. Jim did a remarkable job and scored highest by answering correctly 239 of 250 questions. Freshmen Bill McMillen and Arlene Johnson placed first and second, respectively, in the algebra division. Those scoring in the comprehensive math division were Bill Hoffman, senior; Evan Yoder, senior, second; and Loren Habegger, junior, second in a separate division.