The Spotlight VOL. III, NO. 4 • \$1.00 A YEAR JANUARY 2, 1958 • TEN CENTS

# This You Should Know

The age of missiles and atomic powerhas presented the Pentagon with a constant tug-of-war between the enormous increased costs of modern weapons on the one hand, and efforts on the other hand to save money through management skills.

Examples of cost increase and new management techniques are:

#### NAVY

During World War II, the cost of a submarine was \$4,700,000, and during the Korean War a conventional type submarine cost \$22,000,000. The atomic submarines today cost between \$40,000,000 and \$60,000,000. The cost trend for airplane carriers and other combatant vessels has followed the same pattern.

#### AIR FORCE

A World War II B-29 heavy bomber cost \$600,000, and the B-36 heavy bomber during the Korean War cost \$4,000,000 each. Our current B-52 jet heavy bomber costs \$8,500,000. Fighter planes cost \$300,000 each in World War II, and a modern jet fighter costs \$1,500,000. It costs \$44,000 to overhaul the new F-102 jet fighter-more than double the \$21,400 it cost to overhaul the F86D.

#### ARMY

An anti-aircraft battalion equipped with Nike I costs about three times as much as a battalion equipped with 90 mm or 120 mm anti-aircraft guns which are being replaced.

#### SINGLE MANAGER

In order to coordinate and to manage the supply of commonuse commercial type items and services more economically the Defense Department has developed the Single Manager System. Under this system the Army is arate items in 1950 and the ser-



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the single manager for purchasing and supplying to all the services food, clothing and textiles and also handles traffic management. The Navy is responsible for medical supplies and equipment. petroleum, and ocean transportation. The Air Force is the single manager for airlift services.

#### STANDARD CATALOG

The Defense Department under the Eisenhower Administration has made great progress on the monumental standard cataloging program. The millions of items used by the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines have been identified and are being given standardized descriptions to facilitate joint purchasing and interchange between the services. There were about 4 million sepvices have been adding around 300,000 items a year. But the standardization program has already reduced the number of items to 3,393,000, and further reductions are in process.

#### **SPECIFICS**

"To give you an idea of our standardization program in the Defense Department, they started out with over 74,000 different types of bearings. They have been standardized now to around 10,000 types. They had over 5,000 electron tubes. They standardized on 192 standard electron tubes. One type of engine, a three or four-inch internal combustion engine, had 1139 parts. That has been standardized to about 57 parts." -Former Secretary of the Navy, Charles S. Thomas, June 7, 1957.

## **LETTERS**

Dear Sir:

This letter is written in an effort to point out the utter heedlessness of traffic safety laws by some of the children of our own Tri-Village area. For example: My mother happened to be driving home recentlv. Children from Hamagrael School (old enough to know better) were walking in chains across the road or riding bikes without lights or reflectors, on the wrong side of the street. Under these conditions if a driver is coming around a corner looking the other way to see if cars are coming, he might not be able to prevent a catastrophe. I am not exaggerating when I use the term catastrophe because it is hard to miss a target of six children walking in the middle of the road. As far as I know, no real attempts have been made to teach these children even the fundamentals of traffic safety. This is unfair to them in the long run.

What can be done about this situation? I think traffic safety should be emphasized both in the home and at school. I hope that we will see the day when the children of the Tri-Village area ride their bikes on the right side of the street and walk to the left of the road, facing oncoming traffic.

> William A. Kromer, II 7th Grade, BCJHS -0-

Dear Sir:

May I add my commendations for the coverage you are giving to the fluoridation problem. As a medical physiologist and former Associate Professor of Physiology at a dental school, I have followed this argument for a number of years. It strikes me that an important aspect of the issue has not been brought out in the present controversy.

In 1945, when the major camfor fluoridation paign was launched, public health officials (Continued on Page 2) PAGE 2 - January 2, 1958

#### LETTERS

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(Continued from Page 1)

had an impressive array of circumstantial evidence that seemed to indicate that fluoride in the drinking water could produce a remarkable reduction in dental dacay. At that time, however, they lacked scientific proof that fluoride occurring naturally in the drinking water in some localities was the real cause of the low rate of dental caries in those areas. For this reason, a number of individuals, including some very competent scientists, objected to the program. They felt that universal fluoridation should not be advocated by public officials until scientific proof was at hand. Proponents for fluoridation responded to this opposition by attempting to white-wash the weakness in their case, and made a number of claims which in my opinion were neither entirely fair nor strictly honest. This fanned the fires of the controversy.

Behind the scenes of this battle, the researchers continued their persevering work to learn more about fluoridation. Gradually data from the test cities were accumulated, and only recently have many of the important answers been forthcoming.

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March of 1956 that the crucial data from the famed Newburgh-Kingston experiment became available. Some questions are still not answered. Scientists are not yet certain how fluoride exerts its beneficial effect. Statisticians are still debating whether the fluoride effect is best described as a general reduction in the process of dental decay, or chiefly a protection against the critical period of dental decay during adolescence when dental caries take their greatest toll of permanent teeth. One fact is now unequivocally proven, however, in the full scientific sense of "proof." Fluoridation of water supplies is indeed an extremely effective and safe method for reducing dental decay in individuals who have benefitted from this procedure since early childhood. Public health officials no longer need to cover up any holes in defending this claim. Yet opponents are still trumpeting the same old arguments and out-dated quotations from scientists. During a decade in which there has been a tremendous advance in scientific knowledge about fluoridation, the case of the opposition appears to have stagnated.

For example, it was not until

(Continued on Page 3)

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To illustrate the changing complexion of the problem, in 1951 the American Medical Association tentatively endorsed fluoridation, but with a cautious reserve which was pounced upon as ammunition by the opponents. Last year they restudied the status of the problem and, after a scholarly review of all available evidence, arrived at a new statement of policy which was adopted just three weeks ago. Their new position is stripped of reservations. The AMA now unequivocally declares: "Fluoridation of public water supplies is a safe and practical method of reducing the incidence of dental carles during childhood.

This reduces opponents of fluoridation to the sole argument that fluoridation of water supplies is in some way a violation of democratic freedoms. To me. this is the hollowest argument of all, because the adults who champion this case no longer have any personal freedom of choice as to whether they do or do not wish to benefit from fluoridation. Father Time has already decreed that they have passed the age when they can anticipate any significant benefit themselves. Ideally, but surely not practically, we might picture a democratic jury of infants passing judgement as to whether or not they wished to grow up to face the dental decay problem which we adults have faced. In actual reality, the argument for democratic freedom seems to be that adults should have the right to deny to the infants and still unborn children in our community a protection against diseases which dental and medical science has discovered. This is a strange brand of democracy.

Robert S. Alexander, Ph.D. Professor of Physiology Albany Medical College

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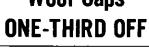
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# Here and There

THERE WILL BE A meeting of the Teunis Slingerland Society Chapter of the Children of the American Revolution on Saturday, January 4, at the home of Mrs. Gilbert Drake, 57 Lyons Avenue, Delmar. Prospective members are cordially invited. -0-

SAVE YOUR DEPOSIT bottles for Little League! Spring and baseball are just around the corner and the Tri-Village Little Lcague is getting an early start in its 1958 preparations. Robert H. Rice, League President, has announced an area-wide bottle collection campaign for Saturday, January 4, 1958. Fathers and boys from each of the eighteen league teams will take part in the collection and every home in the Tri-Village area will be contacted. All kinds of deposit bottles will be solicited and turned in for refund with all proceeds going into the Little League treasury to finance improvements at the League's Magee Park.

#### -0-

THE SLINGERLANDS Home Demonstration Unit will meet on Tuesday, January 7, at 8:00 p.m. in the Slingerlands Grade School. Mrs. Maurice Otis will lead a discussion of Business Facts for Homemakers, the project for this month. -0-

THE ALBANY INSTITUTE of History and Art announces that its winter art classes will resume the first week in January.

Mr. Edward Millman of Woodstock, N.Y., who conducts a class on Monday evenings, will start January 6 at 7:30. This will be a 16-week course and registration may now be made by calling the Institute office. Mr. Edwin Becker's Thursday evening class will resume on January 9. He will not have a second semester until next fall. The 2nd semester for Mr. Rudy Helmo's Tuesday night class will start on January 7. This is a 10-week course and each class meets for 2 1/2 hours. Students of Mr. Stanley Bate's Monday morning class for Institute members, will find the studio open for work starting January 13, but no formal instruction will be given until spring. Mrs. Novlotzky's class for parents and children working together will not resume until spring.

The Saturday morning art classes for children, under the direction of Miss Dorothy Bennit, will start Saturday, January 4 at 10.

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-0-

A Very Happy New Year to You All!

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### EXHIBITS SCHEDULED At Delmar library

The second in a series of exbibits, sponsored by the Delmar Public Library, is now on display in the main lounge and the children's room of the library. Here are authentic specimens of 19th Century Milk-white glass from the collection of Mr. & Mrs. Peter H. Engle of Fernbank Avenue, Delmar. Mr. & Mrs. Engle have been collecting for many years and collectors of this glass will find much to interest them.

Among the items loaned by Mr. & Mrs. Engle is a rare "robin-on-the-nest," one of the Engles' prize pieces; also the bob-tail duck. The group of commemorative pieces includes two outstanding specimens: the battleship Maine and Admiral George Dewey. Open-edge plates are much in demand today, and Mr. & Mrs. Engle are showing two of the more desirable plates: the "Square S" and the "Wicket" pattern. Milk-white glass, so often referred to as "milk glass, " (which is so incorrect) is a product of the 19th Century and most of it was produced in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Some pieces are attributed to the Sanwich factories of Massachusetts, such as the rare Petal & Loop candlesticks.

A project for father and son, will be found in the children's room. Mr. Glenn Wagner, the "Ted Collins" of Boy's Life Magazine and a resident of Delmar, has loaned his model railroad for the exhibit. It is similar to the one Mr. Wagner exhibited at the Boy Scout Jamboree in California and he calls it a "fold-up" railroad.

The Community room of the library has an exhibit of water colors by Miss Katherine Van Allen, a retired art teacher in the Metropolitan area. She has included still life, landscapes and flowers in her exhibit. Miss Van Allen resides with her sister at 300 Kenwood Avenue in Elsmere and is an active member of the "The Pen and Brush." Miss Van Allen has exhibited in New York, New Jersey and Florida.



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SPOTLIGHT GARDEN TIPS

TREES, SHRUBS, AND VINES: Newly set trees should have firm support supplied either by 3 guy wires, securely anchored or by a stout stake driven into the ground. Old hose or coarse burlap will protect the bark of the tree against injury from the support. Pruning should receive attention now. Cut back old growth, crossed limbs, and branches growing inward to the trunk. If the storm last week did most of your pruning for you, ragged branches and broken limbs will still have to be taken off. Saw close to the trunk of the main limb, so as to prevent "knobs." Paint large cuts thoroughly with a prepared tree paint.

If good-sized trees are to be moved, dig around deeply, permit root ball to freeze, then transplant.

Check labels attached to branches, well as all guy wires to make sure they are not cutting into the bark. Wisteria and other woody vines grown on supports should be inspected for weak ties or other attachments. A permanent year-round mulch of oak leaves under rhododendrons. azaleas, and mountain laurel helps maintain soil acidity and stabilizes moisture.



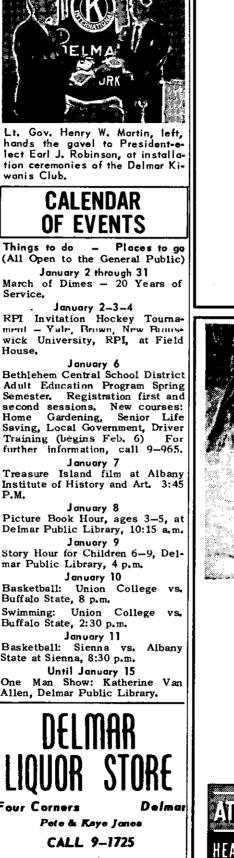
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