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Rebuilt Since War Family Takes Trip to Netherlands; Find Country Charming, Prosperous

(By Mrs. Roger Wykes, Jr.)

A Netherlands charming, shining clean, and leisurely, as well as astonishingly rebuilt and prosperous in the ten years since the war's destruction, was discovered by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rutgers, 28th st., in their two weeks' visit to that country from which they returned June 14.

It is hard to see how the Dutch have done so much in that time, when their pace is so moderate compared with ours, the Rutgers observe; and their standard of living is very high, in spite of a lower income scale. Few people spend their money for cars or refrigerators, which are not essential since distances are short, and milk and meat are brought to the householder's door daily.

The Rutgers rented a German Opel for sightseeing, however, so that Mr. Rutgers' mother, Mrs. Nicholas Rutgers, could accompany them. The elder Mrs. Rutgers, who spent four years in America, returned to Holland a couple of years ago, when she got homesick, and lives in Velp, a suburb of Arnhem, capital of Gelderland. Arnhem suffered awful devastation from British and American bombardments to dislodge the German army in 1944.

Mrs. Rutgers, who is eighty, lives in a speckless and comfortable rest home which had guest rooms for the visitors. Kastell Billiouen, a boronial castle still with its moat, is just across the way and lived in.

Mr. Rutgers, who left the Netherlands for the United States when he was 17, found many familiar things and saw many relatives. Flowers are gorgeous and diversified; rye and other grains grow six feet tall on the rich silt; trees and birds differ from ours. Houses do not have screens, as cool nights do not breed insects; and daylight comes at 3:15 a. m. in June.

A favorite restaurant had a terrace overlooking the Rhine, spotted with river freight boats which are also the life-long homes of some families. Clean,

Legion Auxiliary Holds Elections

The American Legion Auxiliary, McDonald Osmer Post 451, re-elected Mrs. Edna Osmer as President for the coming year at elections held June 24.

Other officers elected for the coming year include: Donna Fellows, 1st vice-president; Marcella Postma, 2nd vice-president; Donna Warner, secretary; Rosma Pullon, treasurer; Mary Waszkiewicz, chaplain; Ann Dykhuizen, historian and Elna Adams, membership.

Suburban Life Want Ads produce results.

laundry often fluttered on the decks. Coffee and gebakjes (fancy pastries on a tray) at eleven in the morning may be one reason Hollanders are a happy people.

Relatives questioned by Mr. Rutgers as to the value of the Marshall Plan were unanimous in praising it.

"The Marshall plan saved all Europe from Communism," they stated. They agreed the Communist party is losing ground steadily in the flourishing economy.

After seeing the mutilation of the country caused by modern warfare, and the scenes of terrific loss of noncombatant lives, Mr. and Mrs. Rutgers felt they cannot emphasize strongly enough their conviction that any amount of money the United States spends to build a peaceful world, even if it should cause real sacrifice, is justifiable if it prevents another world war.

Mr. and Mrs. James Scripps drove the Rutgers to Detroit to take the plane for Boston, from where they flew to Amsterdam via Ireland and England. On the return trip, Mrs. Scripps and her mother met the plane at Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Rutgers plan to return to the Netherlands in two years for a longer visit.

Eastmont Youngsters Attend Bible School

Last week approximately fifty youngsters from the Eastmont area attended Bible school at Calvary Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, which also sponsors the chapel services held every Sunday in the Martin school building.

The previous week, a mail-box campaign informing Eastmont parents of the week-long class was conducted by the church. Every morning the youngsters were picked up at their homes by the church's big bus. They arrived in Grand Rapids by nine a. m. and returned home at noon. A mid-morning lunch was served at the church.

Mrs. Roger Marsman, Mrs. Fred Koetsier, and Mrs. Don Bos were teachers from the Eastmont area. Assisting the teachers were Miss Carol Marsman and Miss Sharon Huizer and Miss Mary Marsman.

Friday evening, June 24, a program with some of the Eastmont children participating was held in the church auditorium on Fulton St.

90th Birthday

Mrs. Lottie Teeple observed her 90th birthday anniversary June 25. Several neighbors and friends called during the day and she received beautiful flowers and many cards wishing her many more happy birthdays.

Ada, Cascade Plan for July 4 Events

Just a reminder to all ACE area residents staying home on the Fourth of July that both Ada and Cascade are planning big fireworks celebrations for the holiday evening.

The events at Ada will be preceded by a ball game at 6 p. m. between the Ada Merchants and the Cascade Christian Reformed Church. Members of the Ada team have been busy all week erecting bleachers to have them ready for the big game. The fireworks display will be held at the park after dark following the match.

There is a correction to make concerning the event's to be held under Legion auspices at Cascade. It was reported to us last week that the Legion picnic will be held Monday, July 4, at the Joe May farm at 1 o'clock. The picnic will be held, but the day is Sunday, July 3, same place, same time.

As previously announced, the Cascade fireworks display will take place Monday evening, July 4, on the hill east of US16 opposite the Cascade Lumber Company.

Need Donors!

During the recent serious operation of Mrs. J. B. Stepek, Cascade Rd., five pints of blood were needed to carry the operation through. Mrs. Stepek's family now needs to replace the blood, used, and the Mother's Club of Cascade is now trying to find donors to help the Stepek family. Anyone who would like to aid the family with a pint of blood should contact Mrs. Sybrant Dykhouse at Cascade.

Mr. Averill Dies, Ada Resident 60 Years

David Ray Averill, of 7144 Headley Drive, Ada, passed away last Wednesday night, June 22. He was 79 year old.

Mr. Averill, a retired farmer, was born in Walker Township, and came to Ada in 1895 after his marriage to Erie May Clouse. His wife preceded him in death five years ago.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the Metcalf Mortuary in Grand Rapids, Dr. Carl E. Martenson officiating; interment in Ada cemetery.

Mr. Averill is survived by five daughters, Mrs. Grace Hammond of Ada, Mrs. Norma Mullennix of Sparta, Mrs. Frances Dykman, Mrs. Marian Pelton, Mrs. Ruth Grathen, all of Grand Rapids; two sons, Frank and John, and a brother, Louis, of Ada; 18 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Church School Honors Mrs. MacGregor

The church school of Cascade Christian Church Sunday morning held a special worship service in honor of Mrs. James MacGregor, retiring superintendent. Mrs. MacGregor, who is moving with her family to Delton in mid-July, has headed the school four years, during which time it has increased in numbers until it has far outgrown the church building.

The committee in charge of the service were Steve Piereson, Linda DenHouten, Dick Pauwee, Donna Edison and Bobby Hamer.

Roads are Dead Issue

Cascade Residents Reject Proposal To Blacktop Township Roads

Roads are a dead issue in Cascade, buried Monday when 294 township voters smothered the proposal.

Two proposals were on the ballot. The first question, authorizing the bond issue was defeated by a vote of 287 opposed to 151 in favor. The second issue, the proposal to raise taxes not to exceed 8 mills for financing the bonds drew a heavier

vote with 294 opposed and 151 in favor.

The largest organized group of objections to the issue came from Cascade school district number four where it was claimed that any bond issue now would impair the township's bonding power to a point where projected plans for an area high school would have to be abandoned.

Gerrit Baker, township supervisor, stated after Monday's election: "The program of blacktopping one mile of township road each year met with much dissatisfaction, so we planned this program to meet the problem immediately. The people didn't want it, so we're satisfied."

Cascade will now continue with the old program, blacktopping one mile of roadway each year. This year Buttrick Ave from the end of the present blacktop to 30th St., is already in the process of being blacktopped.

Circulate Petitions To Rezone Buttrick

Petitions are being circulated this week to residents of Buttrick Ave. from Grand River dr., to 30th st., by Carlton Runciman Jr., to rezone that section of Buttrick from Class "C" to Class "A".

Class "A" zoning requires all dwellings that are built after the zoning goes into effect to have at least 1,000 square feet of floor space, and be on lots of 20,000 square feet or more. It also limits the types of construction that may be undertaken.

A majority of the residents on Buttrick must sign the petitions for the matter to be considered by the zoning board.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wilcox of 1039 Argo, and son Spencer returned recently from a vacation trip to Niagara Falls and Toronto. They also visited the Whirlpools in Canada.

Look for Suburban Life weekly

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE AT ADA

Beginning July 3, the Ada Congregational Sunday school will meet at 9:30 a. m. every Sunday in Fellowship Hall for the following classes: Nursery, kindergarten, and primary. There will be no Sunday school for the older children during the summer.

This schedule will continue through September 4, 1955.

Michigan ranks first in the nation in percentage of income derived from manufacturing.

Showboat Presents 100th Performance



Preparing to pilot the Lowell Showboat on its 100th trip down the Flat river during this year's Showboat celebration, July 25 through 30, Admiral C. H. Runciman, show interlocutor, checks the boat, the cotton cargo, and one of the 100 girls from Lowell and surrounding communities that form the chorus each year. The Showboat, a community project sponsored jointly by the Lowell Board of Trade and the American Legion post, is now in its 23rd year. Playing to over 35,000 persons during the six nights each year, the show will feature a cast of 220, with six endmen, chorus, band, orchestra and six big acts from the American and European stage. Incidentally, Admiral Runciman has never missed a trip during the 23 years. Orders are now being taken for reserved seat tickets at the Lowell Showboat office, Lowell, Mich.

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Cascade News Reporter — Mrs. Roger Wykes
Eastmont Reporter — Mrs. Edward DeWitt, Jr.
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Subscription Rates

\$2.00 per year within the state of Michigan. \$2.50 per year elsewhere

Mrs. John DeWeerd, Mrs. John Kleinheksel, Mrs. Jacob Koenes and Mrs. Sjord Offringa invited all the women of Cascade Christian Reformed church to a "Koffee Kletz" at Kleinheksel's park on McCords av., yesterday morning. Children were included in the invitation.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Mallory of Lakeview were week-end guests at the Webb and Don Ward home.

Letter to Editor

To the Editor:

Now that the 4th of July will be rolling around it always brings us back to the days when we were kids and fireworks were legal. We think of the cane caps, about like an aspirin tablet, which would be inserted in a piece of iron, about the size of a golf ball with a handle on it, which in turn would be stomped on the sidewalk and make noise. We'd also put these caps on the street car tracks with the resulting noise like the present day machine gun. Many a boy went home bawling because some one had stamped their cane next to their bare legs and got burned. I remember very well my clothes catching fire with a piece of punk and being doused in the corner watering trough. At night every family would have their own fireworks—a whole sack full for only a couple of dollars. What a thrill that was for the kids and of course a headache for the fire department as the roofs were all wooden shingle in those days and many a roof

fire was started with skyrockets shooting in every direction. What a thrill it was to see the steamer coming up the street drawn by three horses galloping at full speed with sparks flying out of the stack adding to the fireworks.

One family never tires of telling about a whole bushel of fireworks setting on the porch, when a skyrocket back-fired and set the whole bushel—with rockets, roman candles, spinning wheels and sparklers flying in every direction and everyone running around like mad dodging, or hauling water from the pump.

A few years ago we were standing on the street corner of London, Canada, right down on main street and the boys were shooting off these little fire-crackers. It struck me as being funny, although it wasn't funny, to see these crackers scare the wits out of some of the town strollers and even burning some of the ladies legs. How those kids did scoot and when the police came around they were nowhere to be found. Of course this is outlawed in our country as it's far too dangerous.

Since Ramona Park is closed its a fine thing that Ada and Cascade have their own fireworks now. Why not lets get together so a bigger and better display can be put on. One year at Ada, the next at Cascade or better still somewhere between where parking and traffic conjection will be no problem. How about it? Why not plan ahead for next year.

—Case Heemstra

Summer

Summer is here! The warm kiss Of the sun is on field and stream,

On hills and valley
On tree and flower and meadow.

After months of bitter cold and dampness,
We humans can once more Bask in the warm sunshine
And watch the ever returning miracle of nature's growth in summer.

I feel much like the oriental native
Whom I have watched at sunrise,
As he turned and made obeisance to the rising sun
Before he engaged in his morning ablutions.

For thousands of years humans have worshipped the sun.
How right and how fitting!
He is the great giver of Life;
Without Him all would be darkness upon the earth!

So let us be truly thankful for His life giving rays.
Let us face the East in the morning
With a prayer of gratitude for His beneficence.

As long as His golden orb is in the sky.
We may be sure that God has not forsaken us.

By Reese Veatch To "D"

Sunday callers of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Svoboda at their cottage at Sliver Lake were Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Courtright, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Morris and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Spring.

Readers, Attention
Kent County Bookmobile comes to Cascade every Tuesday afternoon at 3:15 this summer, and stays for an hour. The van stops at the Cascade Pharmacy; adults as well as children may take out books. A story hour by the librarian is an innovation this year. Last visit will be Aug. 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Joslin of Smyrna were Wednesday callers at the Tom Morris home.

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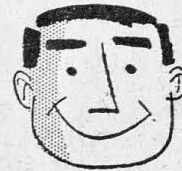
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Dick Osborn, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Osborn, 843 Sarasota Ave., proudly shows the 17-inch trout he took at Gove Lake recently on his first fishing try. Gove Lake fish having no respect for the age or for the "seasoned" angler, have yielded Dick's dad little so far this year, and the catch of young Dick is the best for the family.

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At Cascade

BEHNKE FAMILY RETURN FROM TRIP TO UTAH

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Behnke of 4804 Cascade Rd. returned recently from Salt Lake City, Utah, where Mr. Behnke attended the National Convention of the Travelers Protective Association of America. Mr. Behnke was elected vice president of Post "A," the Michigan division at Grand Rapids.

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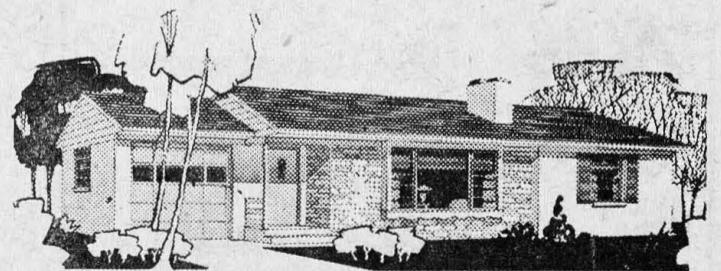
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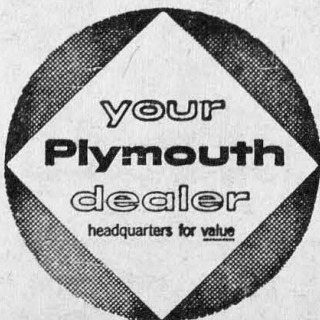
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We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our relatives and friends shown in our recent bereavement, during the illness and death of our dear father. We especially wish to thank Dr. Martenson for his last-ing words of comfort.
Lc-10 The D. R. Averill family

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William VanSluyters
Wayne McFarland
Village Store

Regular meeting of Ada Lodge
280 F. & A. M. Friday night,
July 1.

**Ada
Cascade
Eastmont**

— REPORTS —

The past week I have been going over several old history books on Kent County, paying particular attention to some of the fascinating bits of history on Cascade and Ada townships. Studying the pages I find that during the past few years and for the next few years to come, we will be in the midst of several small centennials, and I hope that none of them pass without notice.

For instance, though founded much earlier, the first Catholic church in Cascade was built in 1856 on the site of the present St. Mary's church at a cost of \$1,000. Looking through the history of Kent County published in 1881 we find that at that time it was the only church edifice to be yet erected, though several other churches were holding services in private homes. We were wondering if any of the older residents of Cascade would have a picture of this first church which we could publish at a later date. Any photograph would be handled carefully and returned to the owner.

As a matter of fact, we are interested in any old historical photos on subjects that would be of interest to ACE area residents. people and landmarks all have their day, when they pass they are too soon forgotten. We will always be glad to try to preserve some of the local history of our area in the pages of Suburban Life. We will particularly try to publish short histories of the townships and villages in the near future to acquaint some of the newer resident of the ACE area with the past.

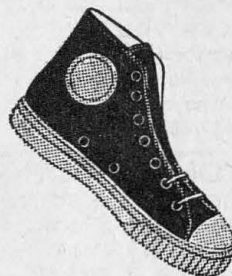
It is but a quick jump in this column to leap to the present, and we are doing it here in one short sentence. Beginning next week Suburban Life will be mailed under a second class mailing permit. This means better delivery. I have had several calls from people in Eastmont and on route 3 in Cascade that the paper is getting a late delivery, resulting in what I would call "Stale news".

If you receive your paper late and it bothers you, I can sympathize, though I have been able to do little until now. Starting with next week's issue, I feel that the Grand Rapids Post Office department can get Suburban Life to you every Friday morning. We mail the paper on Thursday afternoon, and with a second class permit we will be entitled to the same handling received by first class mail. If the paper continues to arrive late, please call me at once, and I will take necessary action to inform the proper postal authorities. I have been very happy that on the Ada routes we have continued to have good delivery during the early months of Suburban Life, with the paper in the hands of each of you every Friday morning.

By the time you receive this copy of Suburban Life I shall be at Interlochen fishing and listening to the music at the National Music Camp for a few days. I hope that any of you also taking a short or long holiday over the Fourth of July will have a good holiday, with a "no accident" record to back it up.

This is the first "Paid" Issue of Suburban Life, and all subscriptions will start as of this week whether they were sent in a month ago or yesterday. We are very near the 500 mark as I write this column and I hope that we pass it before the charter subscription deadline is reached on July 10. Single copies of the paper will now be on sale for five cents at the Ada Market, Buttrick's at Cascade and Reilly's at Eastmont.

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