

Eyes Environs Of a Reporter

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(Mrs. J. B. Draper, who has written this column for 20 years, underwent surgery at Oswego Hospital today. The lead to the column today is written by her son-in-law, Tom Elwood, vacationing in Oswego from his home in Los Angeles. Elwood, formerly a newspaperman in Pennsylvania, is the author of articles which have appeared in Reader's Digest and other publications.)

(Other items in this Oswego column are written by other members of Mrs. Draper's family).

OSWEGO—It's interesting to visit the Oswego office of the Sun, where my octogenarian mother-in-law has been correspondent for 20 years. Petunias out front, cactus in the window, gas stove, electric fan, tables for the boys who used to fold their papers—and pictures and books.

Walls are covered with sheets from the big picture magazines. They reflect a personality: the Air Force Academy, cadets amid modernity; and an Indian pueblo, deserted, framed like the Academy by Colorado's amarantthine hills . . . Gondolas in Venice; and a New England covered bridge amid red and yellow foliage . . . Snowy mountains, great spaces, ships, bridges to far places, men with tractors building a road through a pass . . . Moon over prairie snow; modern buildings of a big city against sunset . . . the Capitol at Washington, birds, flowers, "valse," still life, orchestra playing in mauve auditorium, Japanese maiden praying in green garden.

Boy regards the sea, with caption, "What lies beyond your horizon?" Children of diverse races and creeds stand behind the caption, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Behind desk and typewriter, are books, some stacked four-high. Thesaurus, dictionary, Mario Pei's "Story of Language"—and for a stylist whose short stories appeared in O'Brien's collections of the best. Strunk's "Elements of Style" and Pamela Frankau's "Pen to Paper."

Books for boys: "Lindbergh's We," J. F. Cooper's "Wing and Wing," Irvin Cobb's "Red Licker," and "First Aid," "Snobs," "Tobin's Palm," and "Booth and the Spirit of Lincoln." And across the street from the town . . . which she is chief customer, an overflow from her home library, including verse, a Saturday Review Reader, "Shaping of the Human Mind," "Live Without Fear," Boris Pasternak's "Safe Conduct," Thomas Merton's "Seeds of Contemplation" . . . and illustrating breadth, depth and agelessness, an 1896 book, "The Search for the North Pole," and a '64 book, "Mississippi, the Closed Society"

There is no book of "Columns in The Sun," but a collection of items culled from two decades of daily observations by a person so interested, so interesting—Here's hoping that frail body and indomitable spirit emerge from the Oswego Hospital "still achieving still pursuing"—as in Longfellow's "Psalm of Life"—

435 reached on Sept. 15, 1963. Supt. Cleo Garrett believes

West Side School, which is kindergarten through fifth grade, has 195 students, with 100 at East Junior High (sixth through eighth) and 117 at Oswego High School.

In contrast, there was a 484 total enrollment in 1955, 106 in high school and 378 in the grade school and junior high.

Garrett, beginning his third year at Oswego after his graduation at Oklahoma State University and several years in the Henryetta, Okla., system, says there are few innovations in curriculum this year. Physical education is more systemized at East than last year, with the students walking the two blocks to the high school gymnasium for that portion of their education.

Oswego High School graduates generally rank well above the national norms in achievement as measured by standardized tests, and slightly above the state averages.

Combined faculty of the three schools totals 27, which gives a pupil-teacher ratio of slightly more than 15, which is much better than the national average.

"We do not have all the physical advantages of the large urban schools," said Garrett, "but the intense personal attention we are able to give the students probably makes up for that."

High school classes at Oswego range from four or five to 20, with an average of 15.

A commercial arts teacher yesterday said her first year typing class had 15 enrollees, which is a little larger for such training. Adjustments in such totals are inevitable, some of them from early changes in interest and some from natural attrition when students find they are overloaded and feel they must concentrate on college preparatory work.

Job's Daughters, Oswego Bethel No. 59, will meet at 7 o'clock Saturday night at the Masonic Hall.

A joint meeting of rural women's clubs is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 22, at Strauss.

Mrs. Mildred Morrow, secretary, said cards had been sent to several clubs, notifying them of the meeting; but some may have been omitted inadvertently, she said.

Each club is being asked to prepare a number for the program. Each woman is being asked to bring a covered dish and her own table service.

Teen Set Clogs Labor Market

WASHINGTON (AP) — There are three times as many unemployed teenagers as there are any other classification of job seekers and they are largely responsible for a rise in unemployment in August to 5.1 per cent.

For the first time in 54 months unemployment had dropped in July to below 5 per cent. But the decline to 4.9 per cent was wiped out when the usual drop in teen-age unemployment in August failed to materialize last month.

Unemployment at the lowest level in 17 months in seven years. The number of unemployed actually dropped by 160,000.

What sent the seasonally adjusted jobless rate up again was

employment problem in the next few years "if there isn't an offsetting increase in demand." The AFL-CIO head alluded to the all-time high of the white backlash, a term used by Ford Metcalf.

Elwood, Thomas A
9/4/64
PARSONS SW

this Labor Day for those who thi



The coast is clear for fun and thinking you end. So keep extra cartons of Pepsi aboard.