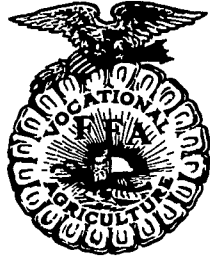


From Local Ag Teachers:



Thoughts in Passing



The article this week was submitted by Philip Oglie, Vo-Ag teacher at Garden Spot High School, New Holland.

"Man With Nature"

During most of man's existence, the outdoors has been his home. In the open spaces he has sought food and shelter, enjoyed what leisure time was available, and taught his offspring how to live. Now, in the twentieth century, and in one of the world's greatest materialist cultures, modern man turns to outdoor living to spend some of his newly acquired

free time. Most people would immediately agree that it is good for man to spend time in the outdoors, to participate in activities that will help him enjoy, understand, and appreciate nature's phenomena. The outdoors is, after all, man's earliest and—both literally and figuratively—his most natural home.

But modern living has removed large segments of the population from close contact with the land, and has created a need for man to learn about his physical universe and to acquire the skills and



Philip Oglie
Vo-Ag Teacher
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High School

appreciations necessary to enjoy fully some of the values of his original habitat. To meet these needs, a broad educational program will be required—one which has implications for all the institutions, organizations, and agencies that impinge on the educative process. Such a program encompasses all ages and includes all the planned and contrived learning experiences available in the community. The home, church, school, and community agencies and government, voluntary and professional organizations are all involved in the educative process. Although changing times affect the nature and functions of public education, all types of educational programs must be involved in any consideration of adaptation to meet man's present day needs.

The characteristics and trends of today's society constitute the setting for outdoor education. The outdoors can serve many of the present-day needs of people—physical, emotional, spiritual. Machines insure production, education must provide for the creative and wise use of expanded free time. It has been predicted that automation will change our lives as much as did

the Industrial Revolution. An enormous task lies ahead in upgrading the activities of a sizable proportion of our population, to swing them away from the frivolous to the constructive use of their leisure hours.

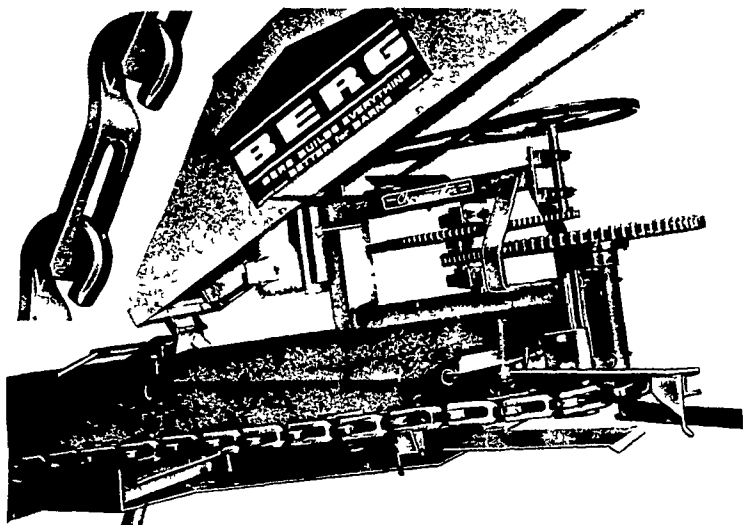
Outdoor education is needed to enrich and vitalize education and create an awareness that man will have to adapt to his environment, rather than attempt to adapt the environment to him. Instead of "man against nature" he must choose to be "man with nature" and to come into harmony and equilibrium with the natural world around him.

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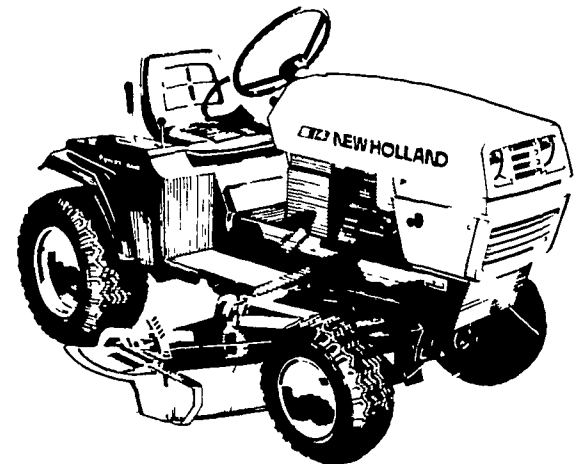
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