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MARIETTA & MOUNT JOY, PA.

# Special Bicentennial Issue



Canal photograph courtesy of Earl Marley

## Maytown parents ask school board to reconsider cuts

the Maytown Parents and Teachers in Partnership attended last week's Donegal School Board meeting.

The parents came to state their objections to the following planned changes in Maytown School:

About 20 members of —the loss of 2 teaching positions

—the possible closing of the primary building

-the planned combination of 2 grades in 1 room with 1 teacher

—the loss of well equipped art and music rooms if the

#### Rededication scrolls at United Tel. office

David K. Ditenhafer, commercial manager, announced today that the United Telephone Company of PA in conjunction with the Bicentennial Wagon Train's Pilgrimage to PA, has available a limited supply of "Pledge of Rededication Scrolls" for the local school, church, and service organizations.

"These Scrolls" he said, "will enable citizens of our communities to join millions of other Americans throughout our nation in supporting this pilgrimage by signing this pledge and rededicating themselves to

the precepts of our founding fathers."

Organizations may obtain a copy of the scroll by contacting Dr. Ditenhafer at United's Columbia office. Individuals will be able to rededicate themselves by visiting the office and signing the scroll which will be available there. Completed scrolls may either be presented to the wagon train as it passes through our area on June 30th or returned to United's office where they will be forwarded to the wagon train's headquarters and placed on file in a time capsule.

primary building is closed —the loss of a full-time principal

The parents were also afraid that the planned cut-backs at Maytown may be the first step toward completely closing the school.

After the meeting, board member Dale Arnold announced that he would oppose closing the primary building. Mr. Arnold said he reached this decision for 2 reasons: the primary building is in better condition than the newer building and the school will be overcrowded if the primary building is closed.

The school board will decide the fate of the primary building at their budget meeting today (Wednesday). The decision to eliminate 2 teaching positions has already been made and is considered

Board members and school administrators defended their decision to cut teachers and combine classes on the grounds of

School board president, Dr. William B. Landis said the plan will "keep quality education" without causing higher taxes.

Students will be grouped by ability rather than by age in the combined class-

The idea of grouping students by ability is not a new teaching concept. A "team teaching" program at Seiler is similar to the new money-saving pro-

he board's current plans are to combine 2nd and 3rd grade classes and 5th and 6th grade classes at Maytown.

The Maytown parents came to the meeting with a list of their own moneysaving ideas.

Some of the ideas were:

- closing the administrative offices at the old Washington School, and moving the offices to empty classrooms at Riverview.

Schools superintendent Ragnar Hallgren said that the administrative offices should not be housed in a school, because parents at

other schools would resent

-not buying new band uniforms

Dr. Landis said that extracurricular activities are "one of the best bargains in the budget."

In other business the board accepted resignations from: Mrs. Marian N. Toppin, kindergarten teacher at Seiler, to be effective August 31, 1976; Lily Grimm, guidance counselor at the high school; Samuel Harnish, principal at the W. I. Beahm Junior High. At this meeting Mrs. S. Jeanette Germer, elementary nurse at Seiler and Grandview, was granted a sabbetical leave for 1976-77; Miss Susan M. Young, high school math teacher, was granted a leave of absence for 1976-77. Miss Young plans to attend Millersville State College to pursue work toward certification in general science and biol-

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Did you know:

- that Marietta's Episcopalians used to float to church on a raft?

- that Friendship Fire Co. used to charge a \$1 fine against any fireman who was intoxicated at the firehouse?

- that Sam'l Binkley offered a reward of 3 1/2 cents plus two chews of tobacco to anyone who caught his runaway apprentice?

You will learn all this and more in our special Bicentennial section. We have articles by: Mike Cohan, George H. Hedrick, Jr., Wilbur I. Beahm, Father A. Red, Russ Trimmer, Vernon Kinsey, Vera Cox, Joanne Zink, Sally Hess, Rev. Robert C. Murphy, Paddy Schatz, Dan Wolgemuth, Joe Shaeffer, Jay Greider, Hazel Crankshaw, Margaret Landis, and others.

Bicentennial Section starts on page 10.

### 17 hurt in crash

Seventeen people were injured, some seriously, in a two-car crash on Bainbridge Road last Weds. evening. No one was killed.

A car filled with children going to Bible School collided with a station wagon carrying members of a girls' softball team.

Ambulances from Maytown, Marietta, Bainbridge, Rheems, Elizabethtown, and Middletown rushed the victims to hospitals.

The injured included: Sally A. Noll, 21, Bainbridge R1; Grace Raber, 13, Columbia R1; Dawn Donley, 15, Columbia R1; Donna Squibbs, 12, of 12 South Gay Street; Patty Cranford, 14, of 691 West Market Street, Marietta; Julie Pickle, 13, of 23 North Chestnut Street,

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