

Thomas Jefferson shocks local citizens

by Randy Bussard

During the past few weeks the eighth grade Pennsylvania History classes at Beahm Junior High have been studying about the founding of our national government. One document which was studied was the Declaration of Independence. In order to emphasize the difficulty which the delegates had in persuading the people of the state to support the Declaration, we tried an experiment. Each student was given the first paragraph of the Declaration in the form of a

petition. They were asked to visit the homes of people in their neighborhood, asking them to sign their petition. The students were instructed not to tell the people that this was a class project, so as to prevent people from signing merely because it was a school project. The students were instructed to tell the people they were members of the Young People in Politics Organization. After obtaining the initial response from the neighborhood people, the students were instructed to explain to the person that what he had signed or refused to sign was the Declaration of Independence. As a result of our experiment we found that 32% of the people polled had signed our petition, with 68% refusing to sign. The students also obtained a wide variety of comments from the people polled, some of which were:

'Oh, my God!
'What idiot wrote this?'
'There is nothing wrong with our government.'
'Couldn't work in today's society.'

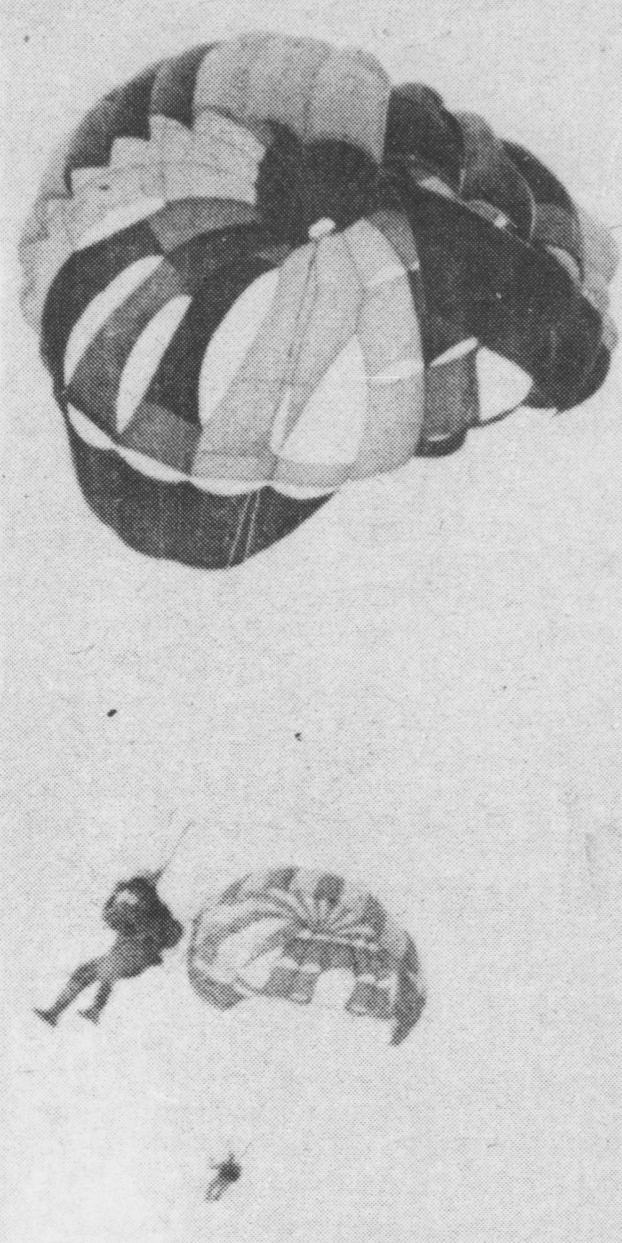
We felt that our experiment proved to be a meaningful learning experience for all those people who became involved in the

experiment. It gave us an insight into the struggles of our forefathers, as we celebrate the bicentennial of our country.

This is a copy of the petition which was given to the students:

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the

People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present Federal Government is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.



The ball descending



Presenting the ball: Don Splain, Gary Ruhl, and Dick Lehman

The ball came from heaven

Maytown parachuters brought the ball for last week's softball game between the Wagon Wheel Hotel and Dutch Wonderland. Next Wagon Wheel game Thur. night in new Maytown park.

Chester Wittell

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and conundrums for con-
temporaries.

Dr. Philip Klein, Penn State University in his Vide Historical Review of Berks County stated: "What a splendid book of lilting, homespun, rhythmic verses. The author has given us a collection of poems which he has spaded from the soil of fertile Lancaster County. The fruits of his garden will give me many pleasant hours in his library." Preston A. Barba, editor-in-chief on publications of Pennsylvania German Folklore stated that Wittell's book "points a delicately shaded yet fully masculine picture of rural Lancaster County, the Pennsylvania Dutch cornucopia. The poet seems inspired by the bucolic muse which

prompted Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony."

The 150 poems cover such subjects as Abe Buzard, The Cloisters, The Col-lithumpian Band, Hexerei, Pines of Gretna, Womner-naus and Rothsville. The work included verse, some in sonnet form, detailing historic episodes, social customs, and idioms indigenous to this region.

Among additional works are: "The Saga of the Sus-quehanna," "Miscellaneous Poems," "Songs of the Desert," "African Melodies," "Winds of Asia," plus 400 sonnets, some on ancient subjects.

More than eighty years old, Dr. Wittell is still using his God-given talents for the enjoyment of others.

SECOND INFANTRY DIVISION CHARTER

Lancaster County Veterans who were former members of the SECOND (INDIAN HEAD) INFANTRY DIVISION, will meet to activate a Lancaster County Charter. The Division participated in World War I, World War II, and Korea. The Division recently marked its 5000th day in Korea.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21, at 8 P.M. at the AMVETS Post 19, 225 Park Ave., Lancaster,

PARSE MEETING

A meeting of PARSE will be held at 2 P.M. Thursday, May 15, 1975, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 700 Pleasure Road, Grandview Heights, Lancaster, Pa., 17601

Pleasure Road may be reached from Route 23, at end of R.C.A parking lot or from intersection of Routes 222 and 501 going to or coming from the Lancaster Shopping Center, at two gas stations.

Come out to the meeting and bring along a retired friend or more.

SICO BANQUET

Speaking at the awards banquet, Sico President Robert McGinley said, 'As big as Sico is, we still try to foster a small company atmosphere. And the fact that so many employees stay with us for so many years seems to indicate we've succeeded. My deepest appreciation to each and every one of you.'

Sico, celebrating its 89th year of service, is the nation's largest Citgo petroleum distributor and one of the top 20 largest petroleum distributors in the country. An estimated 465 persons attended the banquet.

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