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Whitchell 4180**Adult Education Becomes Serious
Problem; What to Do About It?****64 Million People in U. S.
Termed Under-Equipped**By Herbert R. Mulford
Member, Board of Education, New
Trier Township High SchoolDoes a serious problem in adult
education confront the North Shore
villages? If so, is it a problem to
be attacked by cooperative township
action, or should Glencoe, Kenil-
worth, Wilmette and Winnetka
tackle their jobs independently? Why
should these questions be asked?If citizens of these villages were
suddenly confronted with the likeli-
hood of the loss of their electoral
franchise there would be trouble.
But when their votes are rendered
largely ineffective by the dilution of
other votes cast on an unintelligent
partisan or emotional basis, the re-
sult is just as serious. Does such
dilution operate here on the North
Shore? If so how does this come
about? What bearing does it have
on our local educational responsibil-
ities?**Many Angled Problem**This is a very complex problem
with many angles to it, such as
venal politics, defects in the opera-
tion of local, state, and national po-
litical party committees, etc. There
is much loose thinking on the as-
sumption that "in the long run
things come out all right"; "there
is always the right to change things
at the polls," etc. But look at this
picture.Commissioner J. W. Studebaker,
of the U. S. Office of Education, is
authority for the following figures.
Of some 75,000,000 adults in this
country, about 22,000,000 never com-
pleted the eighth grade in school;
another 22,000,000 finished the eighth
grade but failed to complete high-
school training. Only 9,200,000
graduated from high school, and of
this number 2,100,000 completed col-
lege work. This means that 85 per
cent of our population have been
denied the opportunity of orderly
study of our civic problems. Thus,
on the average 85 out of every 100
voters go to the polls to settle local,
state and national problems on
which probably they are totally un-
informed.In the earlier history of our coun-
try this was not so serious a prob-
lem, for our national life was not so
complex as it is today. Vast eco-
nomic changes, both constructive
and destructive, have been accom-
panied by social and political
changes of which the best informed
people cannot forecast the conse-
quences. The so-called well-educated
person can hardly flatter himself
that he is better equipped than his
neighbor. The man or woman out
of college even ten years may be in
almost as bereft a position as those
whose little schooling was largely
confined to the simplest tools of
reading, writing and numbers and
did not carry them into experiences
of logical thinking.**64,000,000 Under-Equipped**With such a huge mass as 64,000,-
000 out of 75,000,000 citizens under-
equipped with mere schooling to face
the decision of current problems at
the polls, it is hardly to be expected
that the North Shore, with all its
privileges, is wholly exempt. When
one adds to this number nearly
5,000,000 youth out of school, out of
work and subjected to extreme emo-
tional strains with consequent emo-
tional bias in thinking, and to this
number the many reasonably welleducated people who have not been
able to follow coherently the events
of the last decade, the problem
looms large, even to the North
Shore.Reference was made by the writ-
er in these columns last week to the
separate problem of providing ju-
nior college facilities in New Trier
Township for those youth who other-
wise cannot have such privileges.
The problem of adult education al-
most merges into the other one.
Jointly they would seem to present
a challenge to the local communi-
ties.**Facilities Lacking**At this time there are no facilities
in this township either for junior col-
lege training or for adult education.
True, there are numerous groups of
a semi-social nature that hold for-
ums, study classes, book reviews
and cultural programs. Some of
these occasionally touch upon a
vital issue. But generally speaking
they do not have professional edu-
cational guidance; they do not work
toward fundamental educational
ends. Moreover, in some instances,
activities that might otherwise be
beneficial are carried on in pressure-
group fashion.**Cites Forum Idea**One means of reaching desired
ends in a popular fashion that has
been spreading rapidly over the
country is the forum. A few years
ago large funds were made avail-
able to the city of Des Moines for
scientific experiment with this ve-
hicle. From this there has spread
out a considerable network of cen-
ters for the express study of civic
problems and the individual voter's
personal obligations to his commu-
nity, state and nation. Such meet-
ings, to a considerable degree, have
taken in the young people as well
as adults. It has been possible for
all ages to participate actively in
leadership, preparation of subject
matter, and active discussions.Nationally to fill the great gap is
a tremendous task, for even though
we spend more than \$2,000,000,000
yearly on education, there is no
definite national system or coordina-
tion. Moreover, there are those
who genuinely dread national domi-
nation if the Federal government
decides to spend, as has been sug-
gested, some \$85,000,000 in the next
six years by allocating federal funds
to local schools through their re-
spective states.State-wide, the problem is about
as serious, for there are more than
12,000 separate and independent
school districts in the state, with
little or no coordination on the part
of state executives. Even the sug-
gestions to establish a state board
of education bring up severe criti-
cisms and widely differing ideas of
regulations.**The Local Problem**Locally the people who might need
adult education the most (?) are
likely to be those least to consider
ways and means or to voice their
ideas. Generally speaking, one might
think that school authorities would
be those most versed in the subject
and most logical to give assistance.
Yet nation-wide denominations of
churches have taken an active hand
in spreading doctrines on civil lib-
erties, social changes, etc., on the
basis that they entail strictly moral
issues. Still further, because of the
large audiences they control, there
are many groups such as men's and
women's clubs, leagues, conversa-**Yachting News**

By Carter Barber

Yachting activity at Sheridan Shore
was brought to a close for this sea-
son by the two races held last week-
end. These concluding races were
in the "B" and "Red" series and were
won by T. Waage, sailing "Skipit,"
and T. Mead, skippering "Little Aud-
rey," respectively.**Race B-4-Saturday**Skipit T. Waage
Little Audrey T. Mead
Pegasus V. Gathorn
Sagitta, Snort, Carol, Dolphin, Glider,
Ariel, Twinkle Ditto, Walrus, Swing It,
Fram, Flit, Neo, Oufja, Stargazer.**Race Red-2-Sunday**Little Audrey T. Mead
Sagitta W. Bradbury
Ariel C. Johnson
Dolphin, Glider, Snort, Fram, Snort,
Neo, Pegasus, Twinkle Ditto, Walrus,
Swing It, Oufja, Flit, Stargazer, Kath-
leen, Capella.These races, race committee-ed by
the returned "Curfew," were also
the final ones in their series and
the winners were as follows:**"B" Series**Little Audrey T. Mead
Sagitta B. & W. Bradbury
Dolphin E. Raymond**"Red" Series**Dolphin E. Raymond
Sagitta B. & W. Bradbury
Little Audrey T. Mead**Gratified?**One person who should be happy
over the skippers of the stars that
placed third in the two races last
week-end is Emerson Raymond,
owner of "Dolphin." He once said
that "wins should be spread around
more and some of the fellows on
older or slower boats should have
more chance."**Taller Mast**A new rig is scheduled for S. S.
Beman's boat "Hob Nob." As he built
"Hob Nob" himself, it will be little
trouble for Mr. Beman to put on a
bowsprit, step a new mast six feet
taller than the present one, and re-
rig his boat with a new jib that will
be nearly as large as "Hob Nob's"
present mainsail.**More Names**"Asterisk," the blue star belonging
to W. & R. Otter, was so named, (by
the original owner; the Otters just
left it the same) because an asterisk,
that six-pointed device that means
"refer to the note at the bottom of
the page," seemed to very clearly
designate the type of boat it belonged
to. If the Otters get a new star for
next season, they will call her "Step'n'
Fetchit" as they hope to step out
ahead of the fleet and fetch buoys,
trophies, etc.**AT ROCKFORD**Miss Virginia Goodrich, daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Goodrich of
1228 Lake avenue, is among the
freshmen gathering on the Rockford
college campus beginning today
(Thursday) for the orientation pe-
riod which precedes the formal
opening of the ninety-second aca-
demic year. She is a graduate of
New Trier. Miss Frances Rapp,
another Wilmette resident, returns
to the Rockford campus as a junior.tion groups, etc., which, if they
threw in their strength to a coopera-
tive movement, might lend great
aid to the community.It is suggested that thinking citi-
zens of this community go to their
local libraries for reading material
on this general subject. If that be
lacking, it is very easy to obtain
from the Office of Education, De-
partment of the Interior at Washing-
ton, a number of excellent bulletins
treating of the problem. Subse-
quently these same interested and
thinking people should try to estab-
lish ways and means to cooperate
on something tangible and useful.