

# Clean Up and Paint Up

In a tenement district lived a family surrounded by filth and dirt. The whole atmosphere of the little room which they called "home" was one of hopeless depression and squalor. To prove the power of suggestion, a good woman placed on the table a miniature statue of the Venus of Milo. Against this grimy background of dirt and wretchedness, the Venus shone out in all her whiteness and purity, elevating and brightening her strange surroundings. The good woman called a week later and found that the place had been cleaned up, the dirt had been washed away and a pathetic but sincere attempt at decoration had been made—the subtle influence was effective.

## Real Campaign Is Taking Place of Old Time "Clean Up"

"ANNUAL BATH" FOR TOWNS TABOOED.

Five Thousand Communities Will This Year Join "Clean Up and Paint Up" Movement.

MORE than 5,000 cities and towns will this year participate in "opening weeks" in the National Clean Up and Paint Up campaign, according to Allen W. Clark, chairman of the National "Clean Up and Paint Up" Campaign Bureau, St. Louis. Many of these committees, Clark declares, are thus breaking away from the old-established "clean up" or "annual bath" idea and are striving to make their improvement programs continuous performances.

Files in the bureau's offices, which indicate that the organization has in reality become a national clearing house for the dissemination of community betterment ideas, show that last year more than 2,000 cities and towns made an effort to "clean up and paint up." "This year," commented Chairman Clark, "it looks as though we would co-operate with more than 5,000 communities, in each of which some live civic leader is trying to improve living conditions. Though a majority of these campaigns will start with an 'opening week,' a definite program of activity, we know that the bureau's success has been chiefly due to the fact that we try to get away from the old-fashioned 'annual clean up' idea that has become odious to many civic leaders and an annual joke in many cities. The plans of the bureau call for continuous campaigns that bring permanent results and help form worth while civic habits."

**The Work to Be Done.**  
The work of the bureau this year is more comprehensive than ever before. Everything that will beautify, preserve, improve sanitation, reduce fire risks, and better health conditions has been carefully provided for. Among the things which local "Clean Up and Paint Up" campaigners are doing this year are: Cleaning the streets and alleys, front yards, back yards, cellars, stables, attics; the removal of ashes and rubbish; cleaning up vacant lots of rubbish and weeds; eliminating breeding places of flies and mosquitoes; planting and care of trees, hedges and flowers; and the liberal use of paint on everything that needs it.

It is this constructive, permanent nature of the improvements effected that has won the endorsement of national leaders in every branch of civic uplift work. Among those serving this year on the National Bureau's

advisory committee are: Mrs. Clarence Baxter, Kirksville, Mo., chairman of the Women's Committee of the National Bureau, is also vice chairman of the civics department of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and chairman of the State and Province Health Officers of North America. H. S. Buttenheim, New York, editor of "The American City." Clinton R. Woodruff, Philadelphia, secretary National Municipal League and editor of the "National Municipal Review." Mrs. Philip North Moore, St. Louis, ex-president National Federation of Women's Clubs. William Woodhead, San Francisco, president of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World. P. S. Ridsdale, Washington, D. C., executive secretary American Forestry Association. Richard B. Watrous, Washington, D. C., secretary American Civic Association. Mrs. Geo. Zimmerman, Fremont, O., chairman of the civics department, General Federation of Women's Clubs.

**Paint and Self-Respect.**  
The one most important factor in spreading the gospel of cleanliness, thrift and civic pride, which the Bureau is trying to do, is the work of newspaper editors throughout the country, asserts Chairman Clark. For instance, here is what Paul Brown, editor of The St. Louis Republic, has to say of the movement:  
"Thousands of American cities and towns have taken up the National 'Clean Up and Paint Up' campaign that originated in St. Louis three seasons ago. It has been endorsed by thousands of civic, commercial and women's organizations all over the nation. The cities that have made themselves a part of the movement are cleaner and better cities because of it. The Republic aided in launching the initial campaign and is glad to know that the Federation of Women's Clubs is planning a general St. Louis campaign for this spring. This will aid in making 'St. Louis the Healthiest City,' for paint is the great preservative and a powerful aid in sanitation. Add to beauty and economy the fact that paint has a sanitary value, and the arguments apply with added force to the big cities. Naturally the paint dealer profits by such campaigns. None but the pessimist will object to this. He gives value received and more. The house that is painted is the better for it. A neighborhood that has cleaned up and painted up is a better one in which to live. Paint makes for self-respect and justifiable pride."  
In the office of the National "Clean Up and Paint Up" Campaign Bureau hangs a room-size wall map, with every state dotted by red stars denoting cities conducting campaigns last year. And so it is true that civic leaders in thousands of towns are working to "get their town on the map" this year.

## Suggested Program of Beautification for Civic Workers

"OPENING WEEK" FOR PERMANENT EFFORT.

Schedule Perfected by Denver Plan Has Become Model for Hundreds of Other Cities.

HOW much better would our town conditions be improved, if every one would rally around a live committee and put over a definite "Clean Up and Paint Up" program?

Here is a suggested program which has been followed for two years in Denver. It was devised by L. T. Minehart of Denver, member of the executive committee, National "Clean Up and Paint Up" Campaign Bureau, St. Louis, and has been followed in hundreds of cities:  
**Sunday**—Civic Uplift Sermons in the churches.  
**Monday**—FIRE PREVENTION DAY.  
Clean your basements and attics of rubbish, greasy rags and waste paper, wherever possible.  
**Tuesday**—FRONT YARD DAY.  
Cut lawns, plant flower beds, clean walks and gutters. Salt cracks in sidewalks; exterminate ants.  
**Wednesday**—DANDELION DAY.  
This day can be very profitably used in ridding your lawn of dandelions, trimming bushes and gardens. There is no more important work which the campaign could accomplish than to rid this city of the dandelion and weed pest.  
**Thursday**—PAINT DAY.  
Paint up inside and out, porches, fences, woodwork and porch chairs. Business houses clean windows and replace old awnings.  
**Friday**—BACK YARD DAY.  
Clean alleys, repair fences and sheds, screen garbage cans. Put fly-traps on garbage cans. Put on screen doors.  
**Saturday**—VACANT LOT DAY.  
Boy Scouts and school children clean vacant lots, removing tin cans, paper and brush. Plow and plant garden plots wherever possible.

**"Clean Up and Paint Up"**  
A WORD FROM THE WOMEN.  
Say! ain't it funny what a lot of things men overlook. They seem to feel we women never do a thing but cook. They really think they run the house and everything that's in it. But gee! they couldn't get along without us for a minute. We women are the ones who keep the woodwork shining bright—Who buy enamel for the bath to make it glistening white. We women varnish tables and we buy the stains for chairs, And we buy the proper colors to brighten up the stairs. We women are the ones who say what paint goes on the walls—Which shades for parlor and for den—for baseboards and for walls. We women stain and wax the floors, or else we make the man. We women are the ones who keep the whole town spic and span.

## "Clean Up and Paint Up"



of recent months, could not do a better thing than start now on a clean up and paint up campaign.  
A little fresh paint and the vigorous use of the scrub brush make morals cleaner. Add to these a shrub or two, and a neat back-yard garden and you'll know the joy of living.

## SEEK EXPERT RULE IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS

ASK SCHOOL MEN, FARMERS, EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYEES, AS VOCATIONAL GUIDES.

ADOPTED BY LOCAL VOTE

Schools of Various Types Proposed—Choice and Adoption Would Be by Popular Vote—Aim, Statement Says, Not to Interfere With General Schools.

Chicago, Ill.—A fair hearing for proposed system of vocational education patterned after the systems which have proved successful in many European countries and in Wisconsin, is asked by the Commercial Club of Chicago, in a statement just issued.

The Commercial Club's bill (based upon several years' study in Europe and America by Edwin G. Cooley) is shortly to be introduced into the General Assembly. It is planned to place direction of vocational and agricultural schools and courses directly under the supervision of a State Board and local boards composed equally of practical men, employers, employees and farmers, instead of leaving them entirely under the present school authorities, and there has been some criticism on the part of school teachers and principals.

The statement issued, however, points out that the bill will make the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the County and City Superintendents of schools, the odd member of each of these boards holding the balance of power, and asks the public to weigh all the arguments and evidence carefully and decide the question upon a basis of merit and information, and not to be swayed by arguments based upon prejudice.

To Supplement Present Schools.

"We have developed," says the statement in effect, "a very good system of elementary schools, of secondary schools (including both the academic and the modern technical high schools), and a system of universities—all of which provide an adequate preparation for life for the favored youth with leisure and interest for advanced work.  
"We now must supplement these by another type of school, also based on the training of the elementary school, but which will undertake to train directly for vocational life the youth who must leave the ordinary school at fourteen."

Would Avoid Conflict.

The statement emphasizes that the proposed system of vocational schools would not compete or interfere with the present school system, but should supplement it by providing helpful education under the best possible conditions, offered only to boys and girls over fourteen years of age who have left the public schools as now organized. Such youth are grouped under two heads—those compelled to leave school in order to earn a living, and those more favorably situated but who can be induced to remain in school between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, only if offered practical instruction along vocational lines. Schools and courses to meet all sorts of needs in each of these groups are outlined.

These schools will be introduced into a community only when a majority of the legal voters vote for their establishment.

Each community will be able to introduce whichever type of schools it feels is suited to its special needs.

To avoid interfering with the present system of schools, special, local taxes are to be levied for their support and state aid given to each community establishing these schools, in direct proportion to the amount expended in maintaining them.

The State Commission having these schools in charge will be composed of eight persons appointed by the governor—two employers of labor, two skilled employees, two farmers or practical agricultural experts, one of whom has made a special study of women's work in the fine arts, industry, commerce or the home arts, and one educator.

Local Boards of Control.

The local boards of control in cities will be composed of the city superintendent, ex officio, two employers of labor, and two skilled employees (industrial, commercial or agricultural), chosen by the general board of education. In country districts the board is to be composed of the county superintendent, ex officio, and six persons elected by the people of the district.

It is believed by friends of the measure that this arrangement, by recognizing officials and authorities of the general school board, and at the same time providing for selection of practical men for these boards, will give Illinois an efficient system of vocational schools, without interfering with the other schools.

Give Children a Chance.

"No boy or girl ought to be treated," as Winston Churchill says, "merely as cheap labor. Up to eighteen years of age every boy and girl in the country school, as in the old days of apprenticeship, should be learning a trade (or vocation), as well as earning a living."

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## "Clean Up and Paint Up"

All Together for a Better Hometown

**Everybody Get Behind the Broom**

**CLEAN UP, PAINT UP, REPAIR**  
The springtime is upon us, the time for cleaning up and painting up. Those who have contemplated improvements to their homes or their property in any part of the city, and who were deterred by the bad weather