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## Heathcote Center Dedicated at Jan. 1 Meeting; Plans for the Coming Year are Looking Great!

Mildred Loomis

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FOR HOMESTEADERS, ON-TO-THE-LANDERS,  
AND DO-IT-YOURSELFERS

SCHOOL OF LIVING, BROOKVILLE, OHIO 45309  
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## Sprague Family Leaves Heathcote

As reported in the January Green Revolution, Delores (Dee) Sprague was declared guilty of negligence by a Maryland judge, on Dec. 8, for refusing to have her 8, 14 and 16 year old children vaccinated. She was arrested, hand-cuffed and taken to jail. And released after Clinton Miller, Washington, D. C., representative of the National Health Federation, posted \$150 bail. A trial was set for Dec. 29.

Three weeks of anxiety and conflict of loyalties followed for the Spragues.

"Mother will be in jail and the family separated, if we don't get vaccinated," said the children.

"But I couldn't let you submit yourselves to such risks and dangers," countered Mother.

"And people everywhere have granted to the State the power to decide and enforce these crucial matters against our wishes," agonized the Father. "We must find a way to maintain our freedom, our health and our family unity."

Phone calls followed, to and from friends; and efforts to find legal counsel—the cheapest was \$250 a day! The Maryland Civil Liberties Union could find no loophole (as had been found in New Jersey law) and would not undertake a defense. Neither would the American Civil Liberties Union. Without Civil Liberties assistance, the National Health Federation found it impossible to act further than they had in granting bail, etc.

So, on Dec. 29, the Sprague family went without counsel before a different judge, stated their case again—their belief in the integrity of the body to achieve health when good living habits and superior nutrition were maintained (as they had done). They also said they would

(continued on page 6)

## 1967 Calendar Of Events

Below we give the tentative schedule of events for the next several months at Heathcote Center (mail to Freeland, Md.; bus to Maryland Line, Md.). Save this calendar.

April 22-23: Garden Planting Workbee. Seminar on Organic Gardening and Earthworm Culture. Leader, A. P. Thompson, Golden Acres Orchard, Front Foyal, Va.

May 20-21: Freedom and Order Seminar. Leaders, Dr. Felix Morley, author of *Power Is In the People*; Lewis Herber, author of *The Crisis of Our Cities and Ecology and Radical Thought*; Herbert Roseman, member of *A Way Out* editorial board; and others.

June 23-24: Nutrition Seminar: Leader to be announced later.

July 22-23: Youth Confront Life; for high schoolers and early college age. Leaders, Will and Dorothy Samuel, Baltimore, Md.

Aug. 12-20: School of Living Annual Workshop and Family Camping Week. Discussions on Child Development, Home Education; Building Heathcote Community; Major Problems of Living. Craft Work in Constructing Posture Chairs and Furnishings.

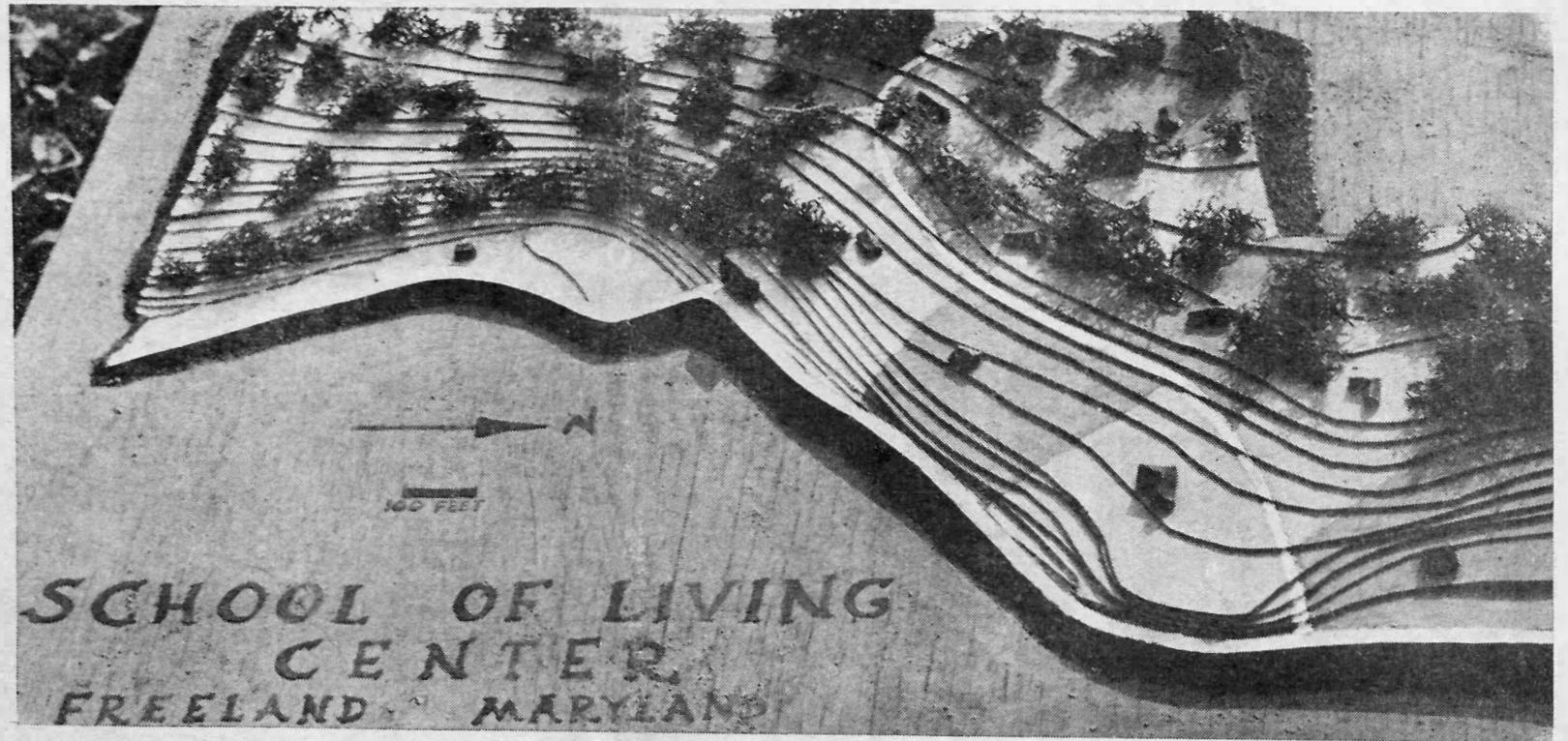
September: Open.

October: Harvest Festival! Apple Picking at Golden Acres Orchard, Front Royal, Va.

Register early for any sessions. Registration is \$2. Fees are \$5 per week. Bring bedding. Camp space available.

Address inquiries or registrations to: Heathcote School of Living Center, Freeland, Md.

## Heathcote Center Dedicated At Jan. 1 Meeting; Plans For the Coming Year Are Looking Great!



HEATHCOTE CENTER, here shown in photograph of scale model, with homestead buildings where they might be placed in future developing.

The 160-year-old stone building, formerly Heathcote Mill, Freeland, Md., bustled with life and activity as 1966 came to an end. A score of adults and several children, from many parts of the globe, dedicated the partially renovated building to its new use, the study and improvement of how to live.

Sunday morning, Jan. 1, Dr. Leo F. Koch, Stony Point, N. Y., president of the School of Living, read a dedicatory statement. Mrs. Mildred Loomis, Brookville, O., summarized plans for a summer program, worked out the day before. James Iden Smith, New Hope, Pa., reported a total of \$9,000 paid toward the \$12,500 cost of the 37-acre property (\$4,000 of this is loaned at no interest charge to the School of Living). Chester Dawson, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, read several of his poems, one of which included School of Living's basic tenets (see page 5). Ralph Borsodi, founder of the School of Living, by tape sent congratulations and reviewed the school's history and goals.

Those present, in addition to the above, included Mrs. Mary Koch, secretary of the School; Tom Jackrell, Passaic, N. J.; Catherine Henry and Ray and Barbara Sevens, Millers, Md.; Edith and Jim Gosnell, Emmetsburg, Md.; Alita Dawson (Brazil); Joyce Edgar, Conway, Mass.; W. B. Anacker, W. K. and Dee Sprague and children (Freeland, Md.); Grace and Harold Lefever and children, Spring Grove, Pa.; Leo and Sophie Rainer, Asbury Park, N. J.; and Joe Bellamy, Yellow Springs, O. Most of these had frequently been part of the workbees and renovation activities that have been in process at Heathcote, since Jan. 1, 1965.

### In Baltimore Newspaper

A very informative, two-column story of the Heathcote dedication appeared in the Jan. 2 edition of *The Baltimore Sun*. An interview with Dee Sprague, it stated that the new center "will espouse a decentralist, individualist, self-help philosophy that Mrs. Sprague describes as 'an escape to reality.'"

### A Busy Weekend

It was a busy time; things were pulled together and plans made. Several items from the

weekend are printed here, including Dr. Koch's Statement of Dedication, Mr. Dawson's poem, the calendar of activities for the months ahead. Other related material will also be found in this issue.

### New Heathcote Coordinators

Joe and Connie Bellamy of Yellow Springs, Ohio have been secured by the School of Living to live at Heathcote Center, handle its records and bookkeeping, and supervise its activities for a year. Recent graduates of Antioch College, they are leaving the editorship of the Antioch alumni journal to take up their new work at Heathcote, March 1.

For some time they have been seeking life in the country. Joe has experience as a gardener; Connie grew up in the hills of Virginia. They have lived in San Francisco but prefer life on the land, particularly since the arrival of a daughter, now seven months old. Besides editorial and clerical skills, they can operate a photo-offset press, and guided us to a good used machine of this type.

### Members Guarantee Salary

The Bellamys are one of several couples who applied for the position of assistants in School of Living work (which we advertised in *Green Revolution*). Their goals and qualifications suited us, yet their financial offer (much lower than their present salary) stood in the way of their taking the place at Heathcote. In mid-January a few loyal School of Living members were informed of our chance. Could we raise \$2,000 for a desirable young couple at Heathcote? We could.

A very prompt and generous response came back. Seven people sent \$100 each, one of them from a New Yorker (anonymous) who has had severe financial setbacks. "But what's another \$100?" he asked: "let's support what we believe in!" Three more pledged \$10 a month; three others pledged \$5 a month; five contributed a total of \$150. By the end of January we had \$750 cash; \$550 pledged; hopefully more to come. Any who want to assist, send what you can to: Heathcote Salary Fund, School of Living, Brookville, Ohio.

When we reviewed the work-

task, announced our resources, and asked the Bellamys their reaction. Joe said, "We're the people." They will prepare for and take over the clerical work during February, and move to Heathcote by March 1.

### Send Subscriptions to Heathcote

On and after March 1, your subscriptions and renewals are to go to Heathcote. Let there be a flood of them!

Prompt renewal and the securing of new subscriptions are two actions of very real value that each subscriber can take for the continuation and development of School of Living. The address is School of Living, Heathcote Road, Freeland Md. (Continue to send editorial and general mail to School of Living, Brookville, Ohio.)

This is a goal long awaited. Your editor gratefully looks forward to more time for better homesteading and editorial work and some teaching and traveling in behalf of our education for living.

### Who Will Live At Heathcote?

As most readers know, Heathcote is the name for the new 37-acre School of Living property near Freeland, Md. Shown here is a picture of Ken Kern's scale model of the area.

Who will live on the land there? In general, the answer is, those individuals and families who want to help develop it into a School of Living headquarters and an education-centered community.

School of Living's Heathcote (Center) formerly made up half of Anacker's Acres (and Bill and Margaret Anacker, and Jeffrey—as well as college age Christine, Georgia and Matthew during vacations—live in the farm house across the brook. In the renovated wing of the School of Living building there—the old stone building formerly Heathcote Mill—by March 1—will be Joe and Connie Bellamy and baby daughter, new coordinators. And soon several persons, including those who have to date "invested" \$1,000 in the project, will be developing their small homesteads. These include Mildred Loomis, J. Iden Smith, Leo Rainer and John Bischof. All have skills that will be used in the on-going work of the School

of Living, and thus they become faculty or counsellors of the school. Others who want to be part of this adventure should apply soon. Families with children are welcome. Outside cash jobs are available nearby, in many lines; one- and two-acre plots are planned for homesteads. Education of adults will be an on-going experience; a school for children is in the plans (also summer cabin and camp sites). Write to School of Living at Brookville (Ohio) for correspondence on this.

### Significant Land Contract

The School of Living has title, and will retain title, to all the 37 acres of land. Those who take up residence there will be given occupancy and use access to certain sites on 99-year leases. This policy is in accord with the ethical principle that land is a free gift of nature; that all people should have equitable access to it; and that none should occupy more than is needed for legitimate business and survival. Such users of land have agreed on the following contract:

**Contract on Loan:** In consideration of the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ loaned to the School of Living at no percent, for 99 years, the lender is hereby guaranteed reimbursement of the above sum in the event of the lender's withdrawal. The above sum is equivalent to a lien on the School of Living property (Freeland, Md.) should said property be sold for any reason.—(signed) James Iden Smith, Chm., School of Living Center.

**Access Agreement:** Upon receipt of \$1,000 by the School of Living, the lender is hereby entitled to a choice of living site (whether for individual or multiple use as decided in cooperation with other lenders) and access to common property (also for agreement by the group involved). Once a site is selected the lender will become responsible for a share of the land taxes on the entire School of Living property, such shares not exceeding 5% of the total. Ownership of land will be retained by the School of Living.

### Heathcote's Future

What will Heathcote become? (continued on page 6)

## Animals On the Homestead

By Hal Porter

Part I

It is possible to have a homestead without animals but most of the fun would be missing. Plants can be interesting. There is a thrill in seeing the little plants come up from seed; and great satisfaction in the harvest. But plants bring no tug to the heartstrings, no exasperated tenderness when they misbehave and get themselves in trouble, nor ever bring joyous laughter by their antics. It takes animals to do that.

Vegetarian, or vegan, homesteaders claim that it is wrong to own and exploit animals. I think they have it backwards. My animals never come into the house and put breakfast in front of me and then clean up the place. They never worry about my health, whether or not I am growing properly, or at least I don't think they do. The chickens, the rabbits, the goats all have me as a servant, constantly looking after their welfare. My wife and I can't both leave the homestead at the same time without worrying that perhaps a thundershower will come up and the goats will get wet because there is no one to put them in the barn, and not only do they hate to get wet but it isn't considered good for them. So who is exploited? Is it because I take milk from the goats which they can't

possibly use themselves, or eggs from hens that have lost the urge to set and produce young, or because regrettably I have to kill the young rabbits for meat, that they are exploited? Well, if so, they will just have to be exploited because without the animals the homestead would have little appeal for me.

### Search For Guidance

Growing them does produce problems, and very little help is available through books and literature. When I first got my flock of laying hens, discards from a commercial egg ranch bought real cheap, I got all kinds of advice as to how I should feed them and tend them. The difficulty with following this advice was that it consisted of giving them this and that chemical to either cure or prevent all kinds of imaginable diseases. The egg rancher usually found four or five dead hens a day in a house containing 1500 hens. I started off with 18, planning to dress out several a week after fattening them on corn and thus have a cheap supply of chicken for the table.

However they started to lay and I ended with keeping a dozen permanently. In a year I only lost one hen and the dozen averaged eight eggs per day. Since I was trying to have everything organic on my homestead I refused to give my chickens the worm medicine and tonics recommended. Instead I fed them a mixture of cracked corn and wheat, a laying mash which from the printed formula contained no poisonous chemicals or hormone additives, and lots of green grass and weeds. The most hilarious piece of advice I got was not to feed the hens the table scraps or kitchen garbage. I was assured by this lady that it would kill my hens. It wasn't until I got home that it occurred to me that I should have asked the lady *what, if the table scraps killed the chickens, it was doing to her and her family?* Since our scraps were organic the hens thrived on them.

This experience stood me in good stead when I got 25 sexlinks, a cross between Rhode Island Reds and Plymouth Rocks. There was supposed to be two roosters in the flock. There turned out to be four, which was lucky as three promptly died. Later I killed some pullets for the table as I didn't want too many and ended up with 15 hens and one rooster. A year later one hen got sick and died. So far, since they started laying this flock has averaged a dozen eggs a day, which is better than the commercial egg raisers do. The eggs have a very superior flavor. If I had a larger homestead I would raise all their feed. As it is, table scraps, grass and weeds from the garden account for about half their feed.

### Doubtful Advice on Rabbits

As soon as my first pair of rabbits were in their respective cages—large ones so they would have room for exercise—I wrote my daughter who at one time raised rabbits commercially, and asked for advice. She sent me a file of magazines devoted to the raising of rabbits. They were full of advice but I was very much dismayed. As in the case of the chickens, this advice called for feeding them all kinds of chemicals and listed so many diseases and medicines therefor that I was about ready to give up. But I remembered the writings of Sir Albert Howard and Louis Bromfield in which they said that animals fed organic foods grown in mineral-rich soil full of humus would be so healthy that they would resist disease.

So I read formulae at the feed store until I found one free from chemicals and started feeding pellets once a day and green stuff out of the garden, weeds and plants that had stopped bearing, or leaves which were too tough for salads and would be discarded. Neighbors who had rabbits promptly warned me

that cabbage leaves, turnip leaves and, in fact, most everything that grew would give the rabbits scours and would kill them. The first year I got very discouraged. It appeared that the advisors were right. But one thing puzzled me. I had a buck and a doe in parallel cages. They were both fed exactly the same food. The buck died and the doe lived. Or, I would have a litter of seven rabbits. Three would die very suddenly and the other four stay perfectly healthy. And all were getting exactly the same feed. I tried cutting out all fresh green feed and still they died. My advisors said that it was a disease carried by mosquitoes.

About to give up in despair I wrote my daughter again and she answered that probably I had started with poor stock. This gave me new hope and I started weeding out rabbits that got sick whether they died or not. After three years I got a strain of rabbits that appear to be immune to this trouble. I found that I could raise young on green food alone. I fed them garden wastes, Spanish needles (a weed), comfrey, and sweet potato vines. This last was represented as sure death by well-meaning friends. But it took twice as long for these rabbits to reach maturity as those fed either grain or pellets in addition to the green food. (to be continued)

## Letters, cont'd

Children of mixed ages ("vertical grouping") do what they choose in a room full of things to explore, play with, make things out of, and experiment with. Each child goes at his own pace in his own direction, with group teaching only when groups naturally form around interests or skills. I hear there is such a school in Bennington, Vt. Probably Montessori-influenced, in that learning and working and playing are not separated, and children seek their own courses. More creative, maybe. Makes use of the whole area a child can reach. *Spring is coming!*—Helen Ryan, Franklin, N. H.

### Eartha and the Good Earth

There's an item in the *World Journal Tribune* about the Negro singer Eartha Kitt buying 260 acres in California's Mojave Desert, and arranging for children of the Watts area (Los Angeles) to vacation and work there. She says her name comes from the good harvest her South Carolina parents had the year she was born: that as a child, "if I wanted to get something out of my system, I would cut out in the backyard and dig in the soil."

She says she got the idea for her farm when she saw how well children worked together on the Kibbutzes in Israel. "Wouldn't it be wonderful for other children to have this opportunity? I hope to start this summer—with each child responsible for his own patch of earth, his own small animal, to learn the meaning of responsibility."

This is another sign that farms will be more and more popular in our over-urbanized world.—H. Roseman, 1452 E. 85th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

### Antidote to Decay

Our industrial civilization has upset the balance of nature, overpopulated the earth, and plunged nearly all of us into mindless regimentation and technological turmoil. The Computer Tape is said to be our ticket to Technological Heaven. But we seem to be using it to buy our way into a feudalistic materialism, dominated by Big Brother. For generations Statism has been winning all the elections. When we count the cost, the "anarchist" alternative begins to appear credible. I have found Irving Horowitz's editing of *The Anarchists* (Dell paperback, 95c) a stimulating and provocative treatment. He deals with anarchism as theory, as social critique, and as a style of life. He quotes from Dostoyevsky, Tol-

## Our Ideas Are In Public Media

Decentralist ideas, living on the land, intentional community and education for living, along with School of Living as an advocate of such ideas, have appeared in journals, books and air media more frequently of late.

In November '66 *Fellowship*, journal of Fellowship of Reconciliation, Nyack, N. Y., prominently mentioned School of Living in "The Creative Year—Who Will Build the Dream?" Crediting protesters, peacemakers and nay-sayers with courage, the author stressed the further need for positive, life-supporting patterns. "I suggest that the sophisticates of protest accord their country cousins respectful study.

The School of Living at Brookville, Ohio, and Borsodi's developments in New Hampshire and Florida have turned out many books and pamphlets describing a variety of personal and group experiments in living within the interstices of our economy. The latest, *Mildred Loomis' Go Ahead and Live!*, presents steps toward autonomous living in the context of an uncompromising analysis of the interlocking corruption of business, politics, disease, exploitation and war."

In the November *Liberation*, 5 Beekman St., New York City, Paul Goodman's analysis of "Urbanization and Rural Reconstruction" is very similar to Borsodi's of the past 30 years. He stresses enclosure of land as the chief cause of people crowding into cities. His solution (using available public funds to maintain victims of the system in rural rather than urban setting) seems to us secondary and inadequate. Goodman sees Borsodi and adherents of the green revolution as withdrawing and cutting loose from urban problems altogether. This is hardly factual, since we promote a new ethical land tenure, and widespread adult education to define universal problems of living; along with seeking and practicing basic, fundamental ways of dealing with all man's problems—rural and urban—in human, life-enhancing ways. We look upon Paul Goodman as an effective proponent of decentralization, a frame of reference which can use all persons of intelligence and good will.

### Germinal and Utopian

Dec. 28 *Manas*, Box 32112, El Sereno, Los Angeles, Calif., in "A Germinal Solution," described the plans of C. A. Doxidis, a designer of cities. He envisions humanly scaled communities (Ecumenopoli, cities of the world) which have no more than 50,000 people, each 150 miles from the other. *Manas* frequently presents this direction; see "The Crisis of Civilization" (Tolstoy, 1908) in the Jan. 11 issue, and often comments on the green revolution and allied efforts).

In early issues of *The Modern Utopian*, Box 44, Boston, Mass., an article on the School of Living is scheduled, and a review of *Go Ahead and Live!* This last is by Ferdi Knoess, entitled, "Say Yes to Life."

Dec. 30th *New Left Notes*, 1608 W. Madison, Chicago, Ill., carried a favorable review of *Go Ahead and Live!*, saying this book is addressed to the Holden Caulfields (in *Catcher in the Rye*), now grown and married. "It is the genius of the writers of this book that they see hope in the early despair of such people, and maintain confidence in the ability of the human spirit to chip footholds up the very mountain of despair. . . . Counsellors lay open the sores of society with startling precision. . . they help direct energies toward finding and building lives of satisfaction

stoi, Emma Goldman, Wm. Godwin, Bakunin, Kropotkin, Tucker, Sacco and Vanzetti. Horowitz isn't too optimistic that anarchism will ever "exist," but he shows it as a necessary protest against repressive external authorities, God and the State. I recommend it be in the personal library of every libertarian. — Rev. E. W. Kreves, 5 S. 511 Radcliffe Rd., Naperville, Ill.

and simple dignity."

### KPFA and Playboy

A friend of decentralism and of the School of Living, Henry Anderson, often comments on KPFA, listener-supported station, Box 1173, Berkeley, Calif. (*Green Revolution* will quote from his commentary on Martin Buber and intentional community.) Mr. Anderson writes: "I plan to talk about School of Living and its ideas on KPFA in the near future. I do what I can to spread the good news of humanization as I see it.

In the January *Playboy*, 919 N. Michigan, Chicago, Ill., British scientist Julian Huxley discussed "The Crisis of Man's Destiny." He outlined serious modern problems: over-population, crowded cities, pollution, depleted soil, poisoned food, poverty, war; and constructive activities: birth control, genetics, conservation, peace plans. He concludes, "This is not enough. We need a new vision of man and his possibilities; a new concept of the Whole; a future of teaching and learning how to live." These are familiar terms in School of Living. Does our language mean what Huxley does? Let's increase exchange among those thinking and talking in similar vein.

### Encourage Dissemination

To that end, we invite readers of *Green Revolution* to commend the above media and ask for more; to introduce the School of Living to other editors, journals, news commentators, radio and TV stations. Some of them would find places for our challenges, analysis and proposed solutions. If you are willing to be 1 of 20 people who will write one letter a month in our behalf to some source of outreach, will you please let us supply you with usable materials for this campaign. Reaching other groups is an important activity in which you can help. And please let us know your results.

## Heathcote, cont'd

The answer is in the hands and efforts of those who associate to live and work there. It will incorporate as many desirable features for good living as the resources and skills of the persons involved can achieve. At the present, the following are possible:

Bill Anacker sees Heathcote becoming an outstanding demonstration in organic gardening, as does A. P. Thompson of Front Royal, Va. Both will do much to help attain this. Bill Anacker also plans to develop a sizable lake behind the now silted-in dam (placing much of the fine topsoil-silt back on the hillsides. His acres will feature good outdoor recreation and camping.

Herbert Roseman, associate editor of *A Way Out* and author, sees Heathcote developing an active libertarian publishing center. We have just purchased a good used photo-offset press on which to begin republishing important literature, and possibly the printing of *A Way Out*.

Mildred Loomis sees Heathcote becoming a viable community of families working at continued education for living, from birth to death; attentive to personal and public problems, none omitted, none overemphasized.

Harold and Grace Lefever see Heathcote primarily as a headquarters for the School of Living—which will receive all correspondence, issue and mail publications, offer courses, seminars and workshops to non-residents.

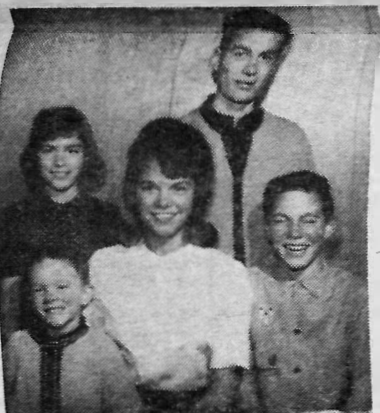
Hopefully, all these emphases will develop as the persons and funds appear to achieve them. It will take dedicated people, continually working and communicating, to attain these goals. But already we have had ample evidence that such people are available. Let's avoid over-confidence, but let's not be timid about our dreams for Heathcote becoming a center of real import.

Who will live at Heathcote? It could be you. Summer volunteers can be accommodated by arrangement.

## Sprague, cont'd

leave the state rather than submit to vaccination. (See letter to judge from Dee Sprague.)

At this, the judge offered to withdraw the charges. The school age children must be out of the state on Jan. 2, when school reopened, and the law would be satisfied.



FIVE CHILDREN of Mrs. Delores (Dee) Sprague: (back) Laverne and Gordon; (front row) Kieth, Lynn and Jerry.

### En Route to Canada

A whole household of goods and chattels had to be packed in a few days! And a School of Living meeting and dedication of Heathcote Center to take place in the midst of it. But this was accomplished. There came an invitation from relatives to spend several months in Florida; with plans to later go to British Columbia, Canada, for a new homestead adventure near other School of Living families (who had been visited in September, and a move planned there in May or June).

So we regrettably said goodbye to the Spragues, sooner than we had anticipated.

And we read about their "Resistance to Vaccination" in many columns. The *Baltimore Sun* had very accurate and sympathetic accounts of each court appearance (as it also had of our New Year's dedication of Heathcote). Since then, readers have sent clippings that indicate the story was carried by the *Washington Post*, *Miami Herald*, *Washington News*, and *Denver Post*.

The Sprague gave, and meant, much to Heathcote and the School of Living. We will miss them, but they assure us they "will be with us, wherever they are." With them go our love and fond wishes. We'll await news and reports of their future activities and progress.