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Let's Have Pilot Plants

Griscom Morgan

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Statement of Dedication For Heathcote School of Living Center

Ever since the dawn of recorded history, we have been told that human beings have faced unprecedented problems. But as the human population on earth has increased, so has the enormity of the problems. Today, war, famine and pestilence reach unequalled dimensions of intensity and quantity. Sometimes even the most optimistic of us come close to despairing of their resolution!

Perhaps insignificant, but true, the School of Living has its origin as a response to the predicament in which Americans found themselves during the Great Depression of the twenties and thirties. It seems fitting, therefore, that we should be initiating a project in the name of the School of Living today, here at Heathcote, Freeland, Md., when Americans once again face a social crisis of unprecedented severity.

Hopefully, the War in Vietnam will end; hopefully racial minorities will achieve the social equality guaranteed them in our constitution; hopefully a green revolution will reverse the trends toward regimentation and conformity which now lead us in the direction of hell on earth.

Unhappily, we may never know to what extent, if any, our efforts here will influence the outcome of this process of social evolution by means of which we exist. But this uncertainty shall not deter us. We therefore dedicate this property, which we have named "Heathcote, A School of Living Center," to a vision of humanity in which its positive potentialities for teaching and learning shall emerge victorious.

Toward this end, we shall persist in a vision in which each of us shall — in his or her unique fashion — share in this victory, by sharing in the work as well as the rewards for which we strive.

We dedicate this center of School of Living activities to the pursuit of our central purpose — that of awakening in ourselves and in all who shall attend here in the future, the unlimited possibilities of the future. We dream of and work for these possibilities, and hope that our children and their children will realize some of them.

In the final analysis, then, we dedicate this School of Living Center to ourselves and to the entire human enterprise; to our future, to the future of humanity and the oncoming generations who will struggle with the problems which we have created in our attempts to do the same.

Leo F. Koch
President, School of Living
Jan. 1, 1967

Approve Merging Our Two Journals

"We think *Green Revolution* and *A Way Out* belong together."
—Kathryn Parnell, Greenfield, Ind.

"My wife and I are much impressed with the combined *Green Revolution* and *A Way Out*."
—Matthew Davis, Mill Valley, Calif.

"The idea of making *Green Revolution* larger, possibly even dropping *A Way Out* entirely, appeals to me as the correct procedure."
—Miles Roberts, Villisca, Iowa.

"We approve the combined format of *Green Revolution* and *A Way Out*. Continue to continue."
—Chris & Cynthia West, Santa Fe, N. M.

"I certainly enjoy the larger issues of *The Green Revolution*. It adds meat to the practical items and news of homesteaders, teaches some fundamental concepts, yet doesn't give too much in one dose, as sometimes was the case with *A Way Out*. I think the editing is superior, and hope you can get rid of some of your other work, and continue giving us the benefit of your skill and long experience as editor."
—Jane Preston, Butler, Pa.

"I hope you can cut down your work in combining *Green Revolution* and *A Way Out*, and plan at least one, possibly more, lecture tours a year. This would produce new members, revive old ones, and expand the movement as nothing else you could do."
—Morgan Harris, Culver City, Calif.

[Mr. Harris sent a three-page explanation of how he thought his above suggestion could be carried out.—MJL]

Letters, cont'd

Scarpas Have Moved

To the Editor:
We're pleased to be able to send our school-age daughter to a little Amish school in our new community. There is no government or state interference here at all. —Mario Scarpa, Mission Home, Va. 22956.

Let's Have Pilot Plants

To the Editor:
I understand the visit of J. P. Narayan, of the Gandhian Institute, to this country is postponed until fall. We are counting on helping when he comes. Helping rural India in a fundamental way is very difficult. Nearly everyone tries to profiteer from everything that is done. The effort of Community Service has been to see how some deep social habits can be overcome and start an effort, or pilot plant, that can be reproduced. For some years now

The Whole of Life

It is not enough, to talk of love and joy of girl and boy and cool astonishment of stars.

One needs round out the vision fill the holes and patch the garment of decision.

One needs some sense of movement the taste of earth and comradeship with things of birth.

All flesh is grass: life is green and love lies stunted 'till this is seen.

—C. S. Dawson

we have been working with the Mitraniketan project. (Brochure from Box 243, Yellow Springs, O.)

I feel the need to go deeper and deeper into social causation. Haste tends to develop programs that lead to failure and disillusionment. It is not with a desire to tear down good ideas that I try to give warnings. Intentional communities fail through unrecognized factors. One can respect Vinoba's Bhoodan movement without overlooking shortcomings that threaten it because of inadequate development in depth. The need for wholesale development is so great, some people feel they cannot wait to develop a successful pilot plant. We can have wholesale developments, but so much the greater is the need to see their limitations in the absence of successful pilot prototypes.—Griscom Morgan, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

State or Parents

To the Editor:

In the October '66 *Green Revolution* Agnes Toms says she has known few parents "qualified" to teach their own children. Let me say that I have known few school teachers that I would consider "qualified" to teach my children.

But I believe the issue is not whether parents are qualified to teach their own children, but rather who is responsible for a child, the parents or the State? I am convinced that the education of our children is not a proper function of government. I believe that parents should be responsible for their children and their education. This does not mean that every parent should educate his own children, but should we not be free to do so, if we wish to?

We (Darrel and I) have chosen to educate our children at home in spite of laws saying we can't. Our three oldest boys have completed kindergarten and first grade, and are now working on second grade at home. As an "unqualified" teacher I must say that teaching my own children has been a most rewarding and challenging occupation. Perhaps we parents are more qualified than

the State to teach our children how to live as responsible individuals. I recognize that there are some fine teachers in the public school system, but could not these same teachers do an even better job in private schools?—Margaret Cole

Homestead For Efficiency

To the Editor:
Five years ago I became much interested in health and how to achieve it. My real problem is: How can I live and eat as I think best? At present it is a continual weekly hauling of food and water. I dream of a place where we are able to have a large fruit orchard, a large garden, spring water, different types of berries, bees, goats for fresh milk, butter and cheese, a few chickens for eggs, a greenhouse for fresh greens all year round, a little extra land to play in and raise feed for animals and wheat for freshly ground flour for baking. At present I get most of these things, but must run all over the countryside or send off mail orders. I know the day will come when I can't depend on others, and would much rather raise it myself—have it right there and enjoy the outdoors while doing it. My husband is athletic, likes carpentry, teaches at a college here. We would like to have a family, and incorporate all these good things with my husband's work.—Marie Gold, 1030 Washington St., Indiana, Pa.

Visitors Welcome

To the Editor:
We have a large house, and would be glad to put up visitors with School of Living ideas, passing through here. —Sherry Hinson, 336 Norway Ave., Huntington, W. Va.

New School Found

To the Editor:
I've just discovered that the kind of school I intend to have has a prototype: Leicestershire Plan, in that county in England.

(continued on page 6)

Is There A School of Living?

In New York City lives a friend who has read *School of Living* journals for many years. He has been largely silent, although approving, and now prefers to be called "Anonymus" as he sends \$100 for our Heathcote Salary Fund, and three pages of acclaim for our publications.

"I don't know any other journals," he says, "which have given such a respectable hearing to the ideas and cries of far-out thinkers, left, right, ambidextrous and zany. I like giving everybody a chance to be heard—and heard without catcalls. The openness of our editor has seemed to me a breath of air in an era noteworthy for its fear of new ideas. Congratulations for wonderful work, with a selfish hope that we can have more of the same for many years to come."

We mention this in order to say thank you to this friend, and to others who have been generous with approval. And to add (and comment on) his further remarks: "To be candid, I've often thought there was no School of Living — only Mildred Loomis. My suspicions were more or less confirmed when she dropped the job of producing *A Way Out*. It and its predecessor, *Balanced Living*, were marvelous. Moreover, they came out on time. She deserves a standing vote of thanks and a real ovation for her work on these publications."

To comment:

Is there a School of Living? I think there is—on three different levels.

First, there is a "school of thought," a point of view, a frame of reference; i.e., decentralism, self-help, individualizing, libertarianism. This is, of course, hard to pinpoint, but it includes all those families who are homesteading, improving their diet, having their children born at home, taking care of their own health, teaching their children, running their own businesses, active in basic reform movements, building community or improving the one they live in. This is certainly much more than a person, Mildred Loomis.

Second, the usual level or expression of a "school" is found in buildings, campus, curriculum. Here, it is true, *School of Living* is a mere beginning—a bit more visible now that our new Heathcote Center is functioning, and will be carrying on informal and more formal seminars for groups, workshops, demonstrations, community building, etc.

A third level is *School of Living* as an organization. We do have a name, purpose, members, officers, activities. This has been the hardest to activate; and it is here that Mildred Loomis has functioned far too often and too much. But in recent years, praise be, both members and officers have been more active; have taken initiative, have pursued our goals with energy. Witness the work and growth at Heathcote Center. And the effort of others to keep *A Way Out* coming, the increasing response financially, and the development of a staff of both paid and volunteer workers to accomplish the work that is open to us.

Let me say again, if *School of Living* is "visible," "active," or growing, it is a matter of each person finding his place in it. When your goals are served and attained via *School of Living*, you will take initiative in, with and for it. I have little time or inclination for pep talks, organizational effort and promotion. I do some of this, out of necessity, but it is not done with enthusiasm or enjoyment. There is a place for an organizer, a salesman, in our school. (Who will perhaps be that person?)

But what is really needed is "every member a salesman." Let's count on the help, enthusiasm and initiative of all *School of Living* people. Find that new subscriber! Send that extra check for Heathcote! Write that letter to the editor, teacher or minister introducing the *School of Living*! Gather with friends to study and probe our ideas; take action in your own life!—MJL

ADVERTISING RATES

Classified: 35¢ per line. Minimum 3 lines or \$1.05. Average line has 40 spaces.

Display: \$5 per column inch. No discounts on any ads. Payment must accompany order.

Deadline: 10th of preceding month (example: April 10 for May issue).

Send ads to: School of Living, Brookville, Ohio 45309.

SUNDRIED, unsulfured fruits, herbs, unbleached nuts, saltless olives, avocados. Frank Smith, 5635 Oak Knoll, Los Gatos, Calif.

FOR SALE: Thriving industry milling unbolted flours, unbleached white flour and cereals. Nothing added. Buy mills and modern 4-bedroom dwelling as unit or separately. \$35,000 plus stock. Miller getting aged. A. J. Rogers, Wholesome Foods, Armstrong, B. C., Canada.

HEALTH REJUVENATION. Fasting. Vacationing. Weight reduction. Nude sunbathing. Spring water pool. Gulf beaches. Delightful natural foods. Health lectures. Rates \$8 up. Cooperative employment available. Write SHANGRI-LA HEALTH RESORT, Bonita Springs, Florida 33923-G. Enclose \$1 for book, "Fasting Can Save Your Life." (5-66)3

LIVING HIGH by June Burn. Joyous homesteading classic. New illus. edition, \$3. Wellington Books, 346 Concord, Belmont, Mass. (14)

THE OWNER-BUILT HOME is now completed. Volumes I, II, III, IV are available (\$2 for each volume) from: Ken Kern, Sierra Route, Oakhurst, Calif.

COOPERATIVE LIVING aimed at a permanent community, patterned after B. F. Skinner's *Walden Two*. Write Walden House, Box 8971, Washington, D. C. 20002.

WANT CONTACT with persons interested in gradually forming a joint family, large and stable enough to effectively and efficiently fulfill functions listed by R. Borsodi in Part III of *Education and Living*. Max M. Lund, Rt. 1, Box 174, Shelby, N. C. 28150.

ORGANIC GARDENER, vegetarian, desires position with salary and family quarters. Wife, executive secretary. Trustworthy, clean-cut, capable; highest references. Prefer a warm climate. Write RFT, c/o *Green Revolution*, Brookville, Ohio.

KERISTA'S erotic ethic and four etc. includes a Kerista Reading List. \$1 from Kerista, Box 34708, Los Angeles, Calif. 90034.

BACHELOR, 33, in northwest, requests correspondence with sunny girl who relishes raw food, classical music, organic gardening, and who values Thoreau, Krishnamurti, Summerhill. Aim: companionate union. RVM, *Green Revolution*, Brookville, Ohio.

INDIAN HOLY PICTURES, from India, 50¢ each. Indian shirts (Kurtas), thigh length, S.M.L., white embroidered, \$8. Double Happiness Traders Unlimited, Box 368, Santa Fe, N. M. He who loves has no time for hate.

living the good life

by Scott & Helen Nearing

Read details about their organic gardening, house and greenhouse building on a New England homestead farm. *Illustrations 70 photos 210 pages \$1.50*

FOREST FARM, HARBORSIDE, MAINE

READER COMMENTS ON VACCINATION

"I am sorry that so intelligent a woman as Mrs. Sprague should find it necessary to obstruct the vaccination of her children against smallpox. But she has a right to be absurd in defense of what she regards as an invasion of personal rights." —P. M. Glick, attorney, Washington, D. C.

"I do not approve of vaccination. [Editor's Note. On a recent trip abroad, Mrs. Preston found she could avoid vaccination by agreeing to be under surveillance, not isolation, for 14 days and proclaimed free of smallpox.] But in the case of the Spragues, I guess I would have submitted to the vaccination, and then given the children high dosages of Vitamin C, and soaked them in dilute vinegar water." —Mrs. Jane Preston, Butler, Pa.

"In this land of the free and the home of the brave, the right of the state to enforce vaccination has been upheld by the Supreme Court, and the only solution is to get out from under the law or get around it. When it has come to the attention of unsympathetic authorities, it would seem too late to get around it, as some do, by obtaining vaccination certificates without vaccination.

"I have not known the Civil Liberties Union to be willing to fight against vaccination. The right to exemption from invasion of one's body is not a civil liberty according to them." —H. M. Shelton, editor, Hygienic Review.