Delaware County Daily g

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1969

Editorials=

Another reassessment call

reassessment.
East Lansdowne school director Fred-East Lansdowne school director Pred-erick Saunders told his board this month that a survey of 1968 real estate assess-ments shows figures ranging from 14 to 45 per cent of the actual sale price. The county average supposedly is about 22.3 per cent, of course. Those with 14 per cent assessments are fortunate; those with 45 per cent are paying through the nose.

nose.

As Saunders put it, "Some people are being gouged and some are getting away with murder."

For another example of the vagaries of tax assessments in Delaware County, consider the former Bond Baking Co. distribution center in Chester which the county last week purchased for storage of voting machines.

machines.

The General Host Corp. sold that building to the Samrus Corp. of Folsom last June for \$85,000. Samrus sold it to Samuel J. Pace of Eddystone two months ago for \$100,000. And Face sold it to the county for \$150,000.

In a public hearing on the proposal, an independent appraiser said the was worth \$151,000. And he cited as proof the Chester tax assessment of \$52,500. Since Chester assesses at about 35 per

cent of market value, this works out almost to the penny.

But why, in talking to the county, did

But why, in talking to the county, did
the appraiser cite the city tax assessment
rather than the county's?

Probably because the county tax
assessment is \$27,000, and the county
ratio is supposed to be 22.3 per cent.
In other words, if the appraiser's estimate
and Chester tax assessment are
realistic, then the county assessment is at
least \$6,500 low.
The list of such inconsistencies is endless. The county's botched-up system is
probably costing it hundreds of thousands
of tax dollars, money that has to be made
up by incorrectly assessed taxpayers and
higher-than-necessary taxes.

Fair, equitable assessments will come
only with a complete county reevaluation
by an independent firm,

C'mon, folks, where are they?

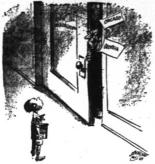
LOST: Sixteen fire hydrants.
Perhaps that does belong on the classified pages, but on the other hand, Robert Foltr's appeal to the public to help find, them also seems like news.
Foltz is fire marshal in Nether Providence. He reported to commissioners that 16 of the township's hydrants are "missing." That is, they have been hidden by "bushes, boulders, birdbaths and various other beautifying baubles."

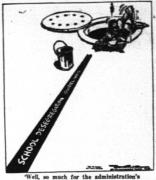
We can understand that some suburban residents feel fire hydrants are ugly and camouflage them behind bushes.

But to save firemen from wasting time arching for a source of water when fire strikes, the least they can do is let them

know where they are.

How about it, folks; tell Robert Foltz
or one of the commissioners where you put





Some concessions likely

School segregation doomed

Justice Department actions school desegregation

or Justice Department actions on school de seg or g at 1 on some northern school districts is being viewed too narrowly in the heat of the controversy over HEW guidelines.

The common Judgment is that the department's filing of a flock of the department's filing of a flock of the department of filing of a flock of the department of offset the impression left by its recent moddied HEW statement that it was taking the desegregation pressure off many slow-moving pressure of many slow-moving pressure of the many slow-moving the probably the President for the proposed of the desegree of the HEW guideline statement of July 3, did indeed want to alter that impression. The timing of the Justice Department moves

is just as plain that the President also intended to persuade the South, so helpful to him in his election, that some real delay and softening of desegregation guidelines would hereafter be possible.

new secretary kooet rinco prevented a much greater easing.

Whatever the fact of that situation, aides to the President were privately saying last writer that his campaign utterances, plus the South's contributions to his victory, made some concessions inevit-able.

which fail to move steadily-toward desegregation.

It is the Supreme Court decision of early 1987 in the case of New Kent County, Va.

It was that high court ruling which truly spelled ultimate so long prevalent in many parts of the South. It declared flatly that the test of any freedom of choice plan was whether, in fatt, it worked to end desegregation and eliminate of the county of the cou

BUT TIME for modified action is not unlimited. Federal court intervention is predictable in light of the New Kent County case. Where that does not occur, under spur of the Justice Department or citizen suits, HEW's hand will be forced and

Former Wade House director writes

Where have these instant black 'leaders' been?

The letter below was written July 17 by Don. D. Roose who was executive director of the Robert Wade Neighborhood House in Chester from August, 1966, to November,

Roose, now director of Foster Parents

Plan Inc. in Bolivia, wrote a six-page, singlespaced letter to the editor regarding last month's Wade House takeover.

Space requirements made it necessary to cut about one-third of his letter, hopefully without affecting its overall theme.



WADE HOUSE sign burned by militants the day they took

Three rather major poin bout the Wade Hous takeover appear relevant lea and they are: (1) Whade House was before it takeover." (2) Prioritie ffecting the black community sture; and (3) The while melating to the current America cail crisis.

THE TRAGEDY of the Wade ouse takeover is that these erious charges are patently and atrageosuly false. I submit that

TO THOSE critics who rightly demand black community control. I can only state that the Wade board agrees with responsible black community

PRIORITIES affecting plack community's future is ssue which appears to be liscussed at this point in Wade House furor. Where, in the name of s

lives of the Chester poor have been decided?
Speaking of a really racist outfil where have bey been decided?
Speaking of a really racist outfil where have bey been in on the local school board meetings where the fate and very lives of our children are considered to the service of the servic