

Uncle Ab From Abington — May 5, 1976

By Jim Jones

Been hearin' a lot of gossip around Centerville concerning the deplorable condition of Paddy's Run, the lil' creek runnin' thru town and on west. Seens a lot of folks are concerned about the bad smell and the mosquito breedin' that goes on down there. Wandered out to where McMinn Road crosses the creek the other day and thought I'd see for myself.

Didn't have far to look. Just follered my nose. Could smell the blamed thing before I could see it. Worse then the ol' man's hawg lot back on the farm when it was goin' full steam. Not much water, just a trickle. Wondered how the folks livin' in the area could stand it.

Don't know much scientific sanitation practices but appears to me some one ought to practice on this thing. It's pretty rank now, and no doubt when hot weather gits here it will be ranker.

Wonder if we ought to git up a petition and send it to the county health board, the county hiway, the sheriff, and any one else who might be concerned. Don't know what it would cost to fix the durn thing but whatever it is would probably be cheap enough considering the smell, the possibility of mosquito breeding, the encephalitis thing and other factors.

Went on west a piece and noted there is a swamp with a grove of trees just east of the 84 lumber yard drive. Appears most of the water stops there unless there is a good rain. The ditch west of the lumber yard drive didn't have any water in it. Mebbe cleaning out the swamp would help but thats for the scintific fellers to descide.

Meanwhile, this would be a good project to do this bicentennial year. We are plannin' to have a bunch of folks from out of town show up in July for the festivities and it would be downright offensive if they had to smell our creek while they were here. Wonder if now isn't the time to start lookin' at this mess with the eye to doin' somethin' about it. Let's all get behind this job and see that our opinion reaches the powers that be. Remember, we helped elect these authorities and now we should tell them we want this fixed.

Would be nice to have a good-smellin' town for the bicentennial. Lots of folks are fixin' up and plantin' flowers but this effort will be badly offset by the smell of Paddy's Run if somethin' isn't done and done soon. To say nothin' of the mosquito problem.