

BACK FENCING

By A MAN ABOUT TOWN

Back from our last trip of the summer to the wooded shores and sand dunes of Western Michigan, and we are right here to voice our opinion that the chattering, sight-seeing driver who plugs along at thirty to forty miles an hour on our main highways is a far greater menace than the hard-going driver of sixty odd miles per hour who is going somewhere and sets his energies to the task of getting there. We hear a lot about the speed-boys and read a lot about surfing them, but we'll stick our neck out by saying that we'll take our chances on their driving any day (or night) and suggest that the law do a bit of growing at the traffic-jammers who are not in any hurry to get places and can't see why anyone else should be.

Five local boys are in high hopes of going places—and it's not on a vacation trip either. George Thompson, Lester Collins, Don Bottomly, Bill Orr and Duke Potere are up at the base ball try-out being conducted at Flint by the Columbus Red Birds, a farm of the Cardinals chain. They are there with hundreds of boys from all sections of the state to win recognition of their ball playing ability. If they suc-

ceed, it will mean a contract with some minor league team, from which they may lather their way to higher classifications and finally—if they make the grade—a major league contract. Perhaps, at some future day, we Birmingham folks may read of the exploits of one of these young men and say, "Why I remember him when he was just a young punk playing sandlot ball around these parts. One never can tell . . . can one?"

We've been told that the new football coach is really bearing down on the boys who are out for places on Baldwin's football team. Some of them have been heard to complain a bit. Our observation leads us to believe that some good old bearing down is just what some of the boys need, and one can go a step farther and suggest that things the student body in general would have more of that thing called "school spirit" if they would take their competitive sports a bit more seriously. Be good losers, but not toss their losses off with a sophisticated smile. They'll find out the life (some of them at least) that in the game of life which follows high school days, that a burning desire to win will not do them any harm. We know of a very successful professional man now located in Detroit, who gained his place on his high school football team by sheer determination; who became one of Michigan's outstanding linemen; who worked and battled his way through medical school and handed in the credentials of a successful man of his profession . . . all because he just would not be licked and wouldn't quit. He was the son of a poor immigrant who could not, and did not understand why his boy wanted to go on through school. He DID go on in spite of circumstances—and he got his incentive on the football field. He developed a determination to win—and he did win.

They came smiling over at Cunningham's had the right idea (if it works) on how to prolong vacation. He was scheduled for two weeks vacation and drove off with his wife and son to the wilds of Alberta, British Columbia. When his time was up he wired the local assistant manager of the store that he was delayed and would be back in a few days. He left no address nor information as to his wanderings and all poor Les Bergman, who was doing double duty most of the time, could do was hope that he would get back soon. We noted a twinkle in Paul's eyes when we asked him about his vacation. Again he said that it's a good idea—if it works . . . and it did for Mr. Lenx.

In discussing the coming departure of Rev. Wright for his new charge in California, one of Mr. Wright's ardent admirers remarked that Clarence had done a lot of growing since he came to Birmingham, mentally, spiritually and physically. He went on to tell how the pastor came here a mere lad out of college weighing less than 125 pounds; that he was pretty nervous when he stood before his people on Sundays and a bit uncertain in the delivery of his sermons. "Now," continued the narrator, "Mr. Wright is weighing close to 200 pounds; he faces his people on Sundays with a calm assurance and delivers worth-while sermons in a voice which would fill a church seating thousands of people. In fact he has grown right into a larger field of endeavor, where he will preach in a church which holds thousands of people. May he continue to grow. (We still don't think that he weighs 200 pounds.)"

Bessie Maxwell, not knowing why "The Man About Town" is so unkindly tipping his hat off to the fact that her Grand Opening of the new store last Saturday was a grand success, and that she had fifteen dozen roses on hand for her callers, only to find that she ran way short on her calculations, which meant that many of them did not get their favorite gift. She certainly also said that she appreciated the

any reception given her new place of business. She stated, was beyond her expectations. Some one who is "on the know" recently asked us if we wrote about everything we heard which goes on around here. We told them that we did not—only the things which people do not mind having told about them. So, with that thought in mind we must sign off any "news" of the well known "Whit-eye" . . . and next week we'll let you hear some of the "peeps" of some of the folks who have them. So Long.

Happenings of Long Ago

Fifty Years Ago

E. A. O'Neill, Mel Clement and Joe Brooks visited Niagara Falls last Sunday. They came through on the excursion train, leaving Detroit Saturday night and returned home Monday morning. They had a jolly good time all day long and night too, for that matter.

Agry in newspapers does not necessarily indicate excellence. The Evening News is 14 years old and the Evening Journal four, yet the latter is doing a better business in every way—in morality, originality, contents and make-up—as the News. The above comment by Rochester observer just confirms our own suspicions.

Eccentric tells how a burglar, with felonious intent, entered upon the premises of treasurer Bigelow, F. Hagerman and F. Blakelock, on a certain morning recently while the people were busy at their morning naps. But for the woman part of the establishments the burglar would have got something besides peas, syrup, an old watch and a couple of cigars, which Whitbread and Mitchell's bankers refused to receive on deposit.

The eastern Michigan asylum has located its new grounds on a point of land on the north bank of Watkins Lake from E. H. Stowell, and is turning some of its present buildings into a private summer resort. The location is first class in every respect and commands a view of the entire lake. Suitable buildings will be erected forthwith. Saturday, a six ton steamer, capable of making six to eight miles an hour, was placed in the lake and will soon be ready for business. This resort will be great for the convalescent patients of the asylum and in securing it, Dr. Hurd has once more given evidence that he is the possessor of a very high level head.

Ladies and gentlemen! If you do want to see a pretty sight of flowers, and enjoy a lovely drive, go down Southfield avenue. You may talk about California but it isn't in it compared with this beautiful Paradise, whose owner is Mrs. Jennie Scott. She certainly must love flowers.

Good, Mr. President! Please do give our streets another dose of oil, courtesy of Woodmen of the World. By actual count last Sunday, over 400 automobiles passed over this thoroughfare, most of them cars, and they all raised some dust, believe me. Nothing has given our village the good name it has more than oil. Oil right.

Clarence J. West, formerly of this place, started yesterday to begin his work as assistant chemist at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York City. Mr. West is a graduate of the University of Michigan, Ph. D., after graduating from Birmingham high school in 1905. From that start almost, he has educated himself and has made his own living. He lands on his new situation at a salary of \$1,500 per annum and it was through the influence and recommendation of the U. of M. that Clarence becomes a New Yorker.

Dan M. Johnson says that the only good night's sleep he has enjoyed since he quit dentistry are those he has experienced since coming back to work again. His many old patrons will be glad to know this.

Fenton Watkins has closed a very successful season with his herd of ponies at Bois Blanc island. He returned home Monday p. m. with 30 of these Shetland beauties. They came by boat to Detroit and overland here.

Heavy voting is seen here for primary; re-registration totals sugar warm interest in county county; 65 candidates listed. Evans resigns charge here; United Presbyterian pastor for almost year accepts Pennsylvania call.

Hills to vote Saturday on new charter; warm contests seen for five places on city commission; take office Monday.

City incorporation wins by overwhelming vote in special election, 713-260. Majorities in all precincts bring success to six year effort. Pick charter group; opposition to change fades; light vote is representative.

STATE OF MICHIGAN: The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, All of whom are of sound mind and of legal age, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the will of the late of said county, to-wit: James H. Lynch, Judge of Probate, deceased.

of said estate in said real estate should not be granted. It is Further Ordered, That public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks, previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county. JAMES H. LYNCH, Judge of Probate. LEAH KOCH (Mortis), Deputy Registrar of Probate. Sept. 9-12-37.

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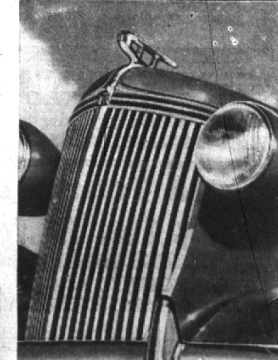


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