

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOVEMBER 16, 1939

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not associated with the editorial staff...

Now that the Wlder Woodward, or Hunter Boulevard, cut-off has been completed with fitting ceremonies...

At the southern end of the new highway, where northbound traffic is allowed to cross over westward in order to get on the old Woodward...

At Oakland avenue and the new highway there should be a traffic light. Thursday night of last week a woman was struck by a truck at that intersection...

City officials have contacted Commissioner Van Wagoner's office, and so has this newspaper...

Murray D. Van Wagoner, State Highway Commissioner Lansing, Michigan

Victim number one at unprotected Oakland avenue Hunter Boulevard crossing here sent to St. Joseph's hospital last night with fractured skull...

Payment of \$300.00 per month to Edward S. Bernard, Detroit lawyer and Republican politician...

57 Families Pay Bernard: Michigan. Of course, it is not an unusual thing for a Party to do...

To get his \$300.00 each month, under the sales tax revenue provisions of Michigan, he would require an expenditure of \$10,000.00 per month...

Multiply the Barnards who are, to a great extent, barnacles upon the State's revenues...

In one of his last week's columns the brilliant columnist Walter Lippmann commented upon the defeat of the Ham & Eggs California and Ohio plans...

World Is in Usual Mess: Lippmann pointed out that the vast majority of people, disatisfied with poverty and depression...

THAT "WOMANLESS WEDDING" staged here last week proved two things: first, that men, and second, that men can put on a show full of laughs...

WHILE IT IS PERFECTLY TRUE that business and labor are on the same limb (and this isn't an acid test...)

With what appears to be an expression of petulance, M. M. Ashbaugh, receiver for the former First National Bank of Birmingham...

You will recall that The Eccentric received a letter from Dr. Hugo Erichsen, local resident, asking that we find out when the next dividend would be expected...

Mr. Ashbaugh, really an estimable gentleman himself, replied that "I wish all depositors to know that they have the privilege of obtaining any information they desire regarding the affairs of this trust..."

Yes Sir, the above paragraph is from Mr. Ashbaugh's letter, all of which was published in The Eccentric last week.

You see, Folks, Mr. Ashbaugh has become afflicted with "receiver-itis," a common malady among human beings who, appointed to administer certain of the public's affairs...

So, if one can gain any civic benefit from Mr. Ashbaugh's penance, aside from the fiduciary aspect of the situation, it is in this one angle of the matter: people who want information from any official may use the columns of their newspaper...

Views on Neutrality: When the U. S. House of Representatives adopted under consideration the signing of the arms embargo in the recent special session of Congress...

Again the cry of "capital punishment" is heard in Michigan; no less a personage than Governor Dickinson suggests the use of this primitive social murder for at least a "persons in prison who kill guards..."

SMOKERS DICKINSON'S suggestion that cigaret smokers and liquor drinkers help to provide funds for welfare relief by turning over to State a portion of their expenditures for two weeks for these two commodities...

Now THAT DETROIT'S NEW Mayor, Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., who takes office January 2, 1940, gained most of his strength by an appeal to the labor vote...

"THE LITTLE BROWN JUG," coveted prize between the Michigan and Minnesota football teams, suggests alcohol in the controversy...

BY THE WAY, FOLKS, don't fail to get your share of the money to be given away by local merchants in their Good Will Campaign, already under way.

With what appears to be an expression of petulance, M. M. Ashbaugh, receiver for the former First National Bank of Birmingham, answered a request from this newspaper last week regarding the chances for another dividend for the depositors whose assets he was appointed to liquidate.

Mr. Ashbaugh, really an estimable gentleman himself, replied that "I wish all depositors to know that they have the privilege of obtaining any information they desire regarding the affairs of this trust, and an constructive criticism is always welcome..."

Yes Sir, the above paragraph is from Mr. Ashbaugh's letter, all of which was published in The Eccentric last week.

WHILE IT IS PERFECTLY TRUE that business and labor are on the same limb (and this isn't an acid test, either), too often it happens that labor leaders are barking up the wrong tree with their solutions.

IT'S ALL PRETTY HAZY



Congressional Comment by Representative George A. Dondero

Views on Neutrality: When the U. S. House of Representatives adopted under consideration the signing of the arms embargo in the recent special session of Congress...

Twenty-five Years Ago Nov. 21, 1889

Those Farmington ladies are good in any emergency, Mrs. A. Murray, an artist of the former said town, hangs out a "small" sign while she instructs a pupil in painting.

Twenty-five Years Ago Nov. 20, 1914

Now we are not saying a word regarding the age of anybody, but Saturday night last many friends of Dr. and Mrs. N. T. Shaw gave a most lovely one grand surprise...

Five Years Ago Nov. 22, 1934

While members of the temporary committee of the Birmingham of the First National Bank were preparing yesterday to call a mass meeting to kill the proposed merger of a permanent committee...

With their new organization almost completed the Birmingham Good-fellows had begun in earnest this week their preparations for bringing Christmas happiness to every needy child in Birmingham.

"Could you learn to love me?" asked the young man. "Well," sighed the young lady, "I learned 'short-hand' in three weeks."

Knocking on Wood!

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

INFORMALLY SPEAKING "The man who is a pessimist before 48 knows too much; if he is an optimist after he knows too little." —Twain.

The current wave of escapes from inside our country seems to have come to a halt. Evidently those who those leaving found no change on face was gone.

Definition of "synonym": the word you use when you can't spell the other one.

MORE GOOD WELFARE This writer does not want the conclusion drawn from his article last week that he believes Birmingham has been deluged in its concern for the unemployed.

This year, the country plans to raise for relief about \$200,000 as part of its regular budget. Oakland City Manager believes this course of action, combined with the unit plan of \$400,000, will be adequate to make a local obligation will be the best procedure to safeguard the city against a disaster.

The general problem, however, is still unsolved. If the county could raise \$200,000, the total amount of \$1,000,000 was spent for relief in Oakland County.

TWO GOOD ARTICLES

Every once in a while, we run across an article that hits the pro-gram of our mail on the head. Last week it was our good fortune to run across two such enlightening articles—probably many of our readers have read them also.

The second article, written by Walter Mills, author of "Road to America," explains why he thinks the American can escape the present con- dition.

WE'RE ALL MONOPOLISTS Lippman said: "Almost every- one today is possessed by the idea that his security and income can be improved by a privilege which restricts the free exchange of goods and services and gives him some degree of monopoly."

"The domestic producer wants tariffs. The producers for export want subsidies. The manufacturers and farmers want combinations which control the market and fix the prices and ex- change competition. Employers, employees, merchants and others want state tariffs and all manner of devices for restricting the com- petition of outside goods and la- bor."

"The combined effect of all these restrictions—tariffs, sub- sidies, cartels, combinations, price- fixing and wage-making—is to re- strict and contract and strangle the production and the exchange of goods."

Another very important factor which Mr. Lippman might have emphasized is the price policies of quasi-monopoly through their own brand of patents. Many manufac- turers practice a policy of holding prices up; in other words, they would rather sell 10 articles at \$5 each than sell 100 articles at \$5 each. That is a real "artificial" scarcity.

(A notable exception is the automobile industry, where competi- tion is keen, and every year the customer gets more for his money.)

All together, these are the practices which prevent the fulfillment of capitalism. The common notion

If the workers are duped into a second holocaust — which would undoubtedly be waged on a far more terrifying scale than the last—how many more homes on five acres, how many more libraries and universities and jobs will "go up in smoke?"

IT MAKES YOU LOOK JUST LIKE A POWER STAR! A broken leg is not healed by a silk stocking.

NOVEMBER 13—Cassius M. Gurnea, was tried. 1939. 14—The Boston army of wounded on Camp. 15—Pike Park, in the Rockies, was discovered. 16—Sherman's march to the sea began. 1934. 17—Congress first met in the capitol building. 1800. 18—The Panama Canal. Truly was argued. 1933.

of free competition arose in text books and exists only there.

POSSIBILITY OF WAR What are the chances of this country becoming involved in the current war? Walter Lippmann has been discussing in an article which the possibilities in which a scholarly presentation which we have hotted down briefly.

We may become involved because: (1) Our sympathies lie with France and England, probably more than in 1914-1918. (2) The new Russian policy and other unknown factors, and possibly more deadly weapons may bring about a feeling here which can not be predicted.

(After all, the war thus far has been a pretty calm affair except for Poland.) We possibly can stay out because: (1) We have the disillusionment, the debts, the bitter memories of the last war. In other words, we know now what war is; we didn't in 1914. We are likely to be less than only anxious but such as the Laetitia. (2) We have not warned Germany that she would be held in "strict accountability" for submarine warfare. We have not attempted to insist on freedom of the seas; instead we have adopted a plan which will supposedly keep American ships out of the war zones. (3) The cash and carry plan should prevent the great war boom of 1916 and 1917.

I don't know whether or not you agree with me, but I know a great many automobile drivers who like the stretch of curbing extending into the street on Woodward Avenue. It has not only been new one, from the old road to the new one at the south end of Birmingham, but it is not only associated but most dangerous, in my opinion.

In all my many years of driving all over the United States I have never seen anything quite like this, presumably for the purpose of diverting traffic.

Already several accidents and near accidents, have occurred there. I have written my opinion of it to the State Highway Commission, and I know others are doing the same.

I think your publication might have sufficient space to have this unnecessary obstruction removed.

F. E. PARKER, Vice-President and Gen'l Mgr., Merchants Credit Bureau, Detroit.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—In the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 26th day of October, 1939.

Present, Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate, in the Matter of the Estate of George W. Lippmann, Administrator.

Florence E. Lippmann, Administratrix of said estate, having filed said Court her final account and petition for determination of said estate, and said estate, and the said Judge of Probate is it is ordered, that the 27th day of November, A. D. 1939, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, in the Probate Office, and is hereby appointed for hearing said account.

It is Further Ordered, that public notice thereof be given by the publication of this order, for three successive days in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said State, and in the City of Pontiac, Michigan.

ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate. (A true Copy.) FLORENCE E. LIPP- MANN, Register.

To Further Serve Our Community WE NOW MAKE AUTOMOBILE LOANS PERSONAL LOANS MODERNIZATION LOANS F.H.A. MORTGAGE LOANS

Reasonable Interest Rates—Favorable Repayment Terms YOU NEED NOT BE A DEPOSITOR Call or write any of our offices for complete information WABECK STATE BANK OF DETROIT MAIN OFFICE IN THE FISHER BUILDING DOWNTOWN OFFICE IN THE FORD BUILDING BRANCHES IN BIRMINGHAM - FERRAND