

The Birmingham Eclectic

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1940

NOTE: The Eclectic is pleased to publish stories of events, death notices, and notices which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of the paper.

The insignificance of human beings, when their personal selfish interests are at stake, is shown in the long fight waged by certain groups to win the assent of Congress to the construction of a bridge over the Straits of Mackinac.

Now, of course, we are not opposed to the bridge on the basis of its hindering more closely together the citizens of Michigan's two main islands; or that we think it a grand idea.

Perhaps a great majority there's hardly a doubt that this one-pointed view, to much of the New Deal's extravagant spending, yet are in favor of this bridge project.

This is what we mean by inconsistency of human beings.

But, bankrupt, or no bankrupt, let's make money and have this bridge and plenty of other absolutely unnecessary things.

The announcement that Jim Farley had resigned from the cabinet and would give up politics to head the New York Yankees baseball club occasioned no great deal of surprise.

Uncle Sam, Sportsman. This fact indicates the high regard Americans have for sports.

Now he abandons all this to direct a professional baseball club. The management of the New York Yankees, of course, is a big business proposition, but it is in the field of sports.

As a politician, James Abeyasis Farley claims to have learned to call 100,000 Americans by their first names. Now he gives up government service and politics and reverses the procedure.

The CHEAPEST MAN in America has just been discovered. A Lincoln, Nebraska, chap stood next to a parking meter while his wife went shopping.

TO GOVERNOR LUREN D. GIBKINSON, whose life-long wife and companion was said to "lose" in Charlotte last week, we extend deep sympathy.

WORLD IT BE POLITE to ask if this tendency toward the expose of men's shirkails is a mere prior formality to the losing of their shirts?

Michigan road contractors are reported to have raised a ten thousand dollar fund to elect State Highway Commissioner.

Now, folks, this \$10,000 "kitty" isn't anything new in political affairs; it has happened before thousands of times, all over this nation.

O. L. Smith is Not a Political Glamour Boy. A political candidate for governor, Judge Seard was there. We didn't hear it, but we were told that he publicly stated Mr. Smith "just as good a Republican" just as dry and just as honest as Gov. Dickinson and . . . he would be a far better governor.

They are good friends. The judge did feel that he was called upon to state a fact . . . to tell the truth.

As several thousand former neighbors of O. L. Smith listened to his talk, we meandered through the crowd. Most of them were farmers and small town folks, like you and me.

When citizens commit a wrong against their fellows, justice decrees they must be punished. Minor offenses bring a jail sentence or a fine; major offenses bring incarceration inside prison walls.

His phrases are not elegant. We watched him and listened to him for half an hour. He was just telling plain facts. He did not try to threaten the Democrats. He talked about the things that were wrong within his own party.

One of the best indications of who has the inside and who is going to get the support of the machine and the bosses is to watch the gang which follows a candidate.

WELL, WE READ that the Germans are now saying that if Europe has a famine this winter it will be England's fault. To a certain extent, yes; but the real fault will be Germany's, for she has looted and removed most of the supplies of her vanquished countries during recent months.

WENDLE I. WILKIE, Republican candidate for President, will make his acceptance speech from the steps of the Elwood, Indiana, schoolhouse that he attended as a boy.

Now THAT FORMER POSTMASTER GENERAL Jim Farley has quit politics and accepted an important job with the company that makes a well known soft drink, we suppose that genial Jim will take plenty of the pauses that refresh.

So THE DUKE OF WINDSOR and Wally brought along their own pink sheik for use on the steamer that brought them to Bermuda!

Mrs. JOHN NAYNE GARNER, wife of the Vice-President of the U. S., always was an old-fashioned home-body. Never was a bit of a show-off from her noted husband's clothing.

COMPANY ON THE FARM



Michigan Mirror

5,000 Prisoners Idle. When citizens commit a wrong against their fellows, justice decrees they must be punished.

Industry Critical. Michigan manufacturers have been critical of prison industry. Burke lauded the state correction commission for its establishment of a trade school at Leoni reformatory in conjunction with private industry.

Random Remarks. Sidney Hillman, labor leader, says that most of private industry will be killed and other labor agencies being met.

Statement of the State Department. "This Government has a legitimate interest in the keeping open of arteries of commerce in every part of the world."

Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister. "All that happens to us in the Far East is probably likely to be very much influenced by what happens over here."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT: "We cannot defend ourselves a little here and a little there. We must be able to defend ourselves wholly and at any time."

Strictly Fresh. As though the country didn't have enough to worry about, coming election, fifth columnists, and 17-year locusts, it must now face the additional peril of a flood of beauty queens.

Future Prospects. Mrs. Jewell's can't help feeling lonely because of her husband's first love. Mrs. Lonowad—My husband's first love loved me better than I ever loved him.

Congressional Comment

PROVISIONS OF PROPOSED DRAFT BILL. In order that the people of the 17th district may be well informed as to the possible effects of the Burke-Wadsworth conscription bill now before Congress, I wish to provide for the registration of all males between the ages of 18 and 24, with those between the ages of 21 and 45 subject to military training and the remainder subject to home defense training.

WE NEED AN ARMY. A wonderful thing, democracy! It makes military and naval experts out of an entire population, with dire effects upon that population, as a rule.

Class I, which would include all men eligible for immediate military training.

Class II, which would include all men whose civilian work is considered important and who are interrupted by military training.

Class III, which would include all men having family obligations.

Knocking on Wood!

with JOHN H. HARWOOD. (Editor's Note: While Mr. Harwood is on vacation this column is being written by Jack Dunn, 17½-year-old lunk who graduated from high school in 1937.)

THANK YOU, LADIES! With the ending of the city's summer recreation program, the part of that program which I, for one, always considered the most important, will continue as usual under private auspices.

Off the subject a bit, but still apropos, one of the principal objections to date is a third term for Roosevelt. It is Herr Goebbels, who is the signator of this "Contra to the Constitution," who is the one to produce war. I must deny Herr Goebbels a Wilkie pin. Don't wear 'em, myself.

People's Column

Dear George: My mind is up against a tough problem. I am sure that you had the means to evaluate the invaded European countries had some place to go.

Anglo-Saxon ideals are at bay, and the artful deceiver and rascal Anglo-Saxons are still debating how to stay out of the fray. As surely as the down-pourer towns will eventually get the flood of emmettizing and smothering propaganda is having its effect; for example, the anti-draft agitation.

THEODORE H. MILLINGTON. And So Does 20. Girl—You want me to marry you, and you earn only \$20 a month!

On Board the Ark. Captain Noah—Can you swim? The Skunk—No, sir. I never learned to swim.

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