

As one grows older in human experience one thinks more upon the imperious and eternal values of earthly life. Many of the days of our youth are banished, for they come into a realization that the minutes spring up like the willow leaves and sacrifice are the real wealth of one's life and living. Love, alone, is all.

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 5

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1940

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# That and THAT

By G. R. A.

## Bloomfield Postmaster Exam Called

PRAY FOR THE ALLIES BUT LET'S STAY OUT OF THEIR UNCEASING WAR! ... War between nations has been going on for untold centuries; this fact alone proves that far too many nations are engaged in wars, acceptable to nations, that will prevent more wars. In saying this, I do not mean to say that war is a necessary evil, but that war is a necessary evil that has been devised to out-law war; but I do say that nations have not learned to get along without war, and that the only plan that guarantees universal and perpetual peace. Some day, of course, such a plan will be tried out. The duration of its trial will, naturally, depend upon the decency of the nations that are engaged to prevent the arising of those conditions that eventuate in war. From past and present experience, it seems that our earth is still populated with enough jungle-minded human beings to tolerate and carry on war.

These few lines are not intended to discuss the present European war, but to suggest that we should hope that the Allies win. Equally deep in my feelings on this subject is the fact that the United States will remain free from engaging, with man-power, in this present European war. I am glad and naive to understand the complexities of European intrigue and the cross-currents among the nations. We got into the World War in 1917, to make the world safe for democracy, and we were on the winning side—and lost both man-power and money in the process. It might as well be accepted by nations nowadays that everybody loses in war—even the victors. No one needs to be so exacted of them as the victors. That was Germany's case, as she was attempting to cross the water costs laid down in the Treaty of Versailles; she finally went to the bottom. It was then, under Hitler, began to rearm. One might well wonder why she should rearm, if she had failed to step in and stop Hitler.

I have a lot of sympathy with the Allies, but I do not have the talents to bring about international understanding, even though on the subject of war I am not a specialist. I have a few practical suggestions which may differ. Human thought directed upon the subject of war is not a new thing. It has been eventually learning a workable solution. That is the pitfall that we ought to guard against is the tendency of the emotions to over-balance logic and reason, and the historical fact. One's emotions suggest that right now, or soon, the good old United States should rearm to the aid of France and Britain; but other factors of logic and reason and history suggest that it is not a good idea of the quarrels of nations 2600 miles away.

By stating out I do not mean we should refuse to pray for the Allies' victory, if our sympathies are in that direction, or that we should refuse to sell them materials and war supplies—if they have the cash to pay for it, or not having the cash, if we wish grant them billions in credit (on the basis that if they do not get it, we must expect to collect it, if not, an ally will be the ally of the ally, and we will have to fight a practical assistance, except for women and defense properties.

Teachers Given Time Extension

At a special meeting of the Board of Education held Tuesday night, it was voted to keep the eight teachers on the staff who do not meet the four-year-training requirement, but that the teachers affected will receive a cut in pay.

House, Believed Oldest in Southfield, Destroyed by Fire Last Friday Night

The old Drake homestead at 13416 Maple road, which is believed to be the oldest house in Southfield township, burned mysteriously last Friday night, and the structure is a heap of ashes and blackened timbers.

Retail Merchants' Dinner Planned

Dinner meeting of the Retail Merchants' association is to be held Tuesday evening, May 7, at the Community House at which time it is planned to have a Detroit representative in charge of the program.

## Man Here Owns Book Used by Early Patriot

A bit of Americana that no doubt has played its part in the early formation of the federal government of the United States is expressed in an old book, "Crompton's Rules and Cases of Practice in the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas," now owned by James H. Barrett, of 720 Kennewas avenue, Birmingham. The importance of this volume lies in the fact that it once belonged to and stood on the desk of this nation's first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton.

Published in London in 1783, the book has a cover of leather, and the paper inside the cover is made of rag. A name in Hamilton's handwriting appears on the cover and in four other places throughout the book, the name being written "Alexander Hamilton"; there is also an "A. H." and one that reads "Hamilton."

This book has been in the Barrett family for 78 years, having been acquired by his grandfather, James Barrett, who was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Vermont in 1804, and was the father of Alexander Hamilton Barrett this week to The Eccentric. "My own father obtained it from his father in 1806, and I acquired it in 1933."

Varied Program Is Announced

Thirty stalwart, singing men will make their annual appearance Tuesday evening at 8:15 at the Village Playhouse when the Birmingham Men's Glee Club presents a concert as its way of observing National Music Week.

Band Will Give Concert on Sunday

As a part of National Music Week, the Birmingham School of Music and the Barnum School Orchestra will present a concert Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at the Baldwin auditorium. The public is invited; there is no admission charge.

Pontiac Boy Wins Extempore Contest

Fred Stenback, a senior at Pontiac High School, was adjudged the winner of the district Extempore Speaking Contest held Tuesday afternoon at the Exchange club meeting. He competed with boys from Birmingham, Royal Oak, Farmington Hills, and Westland.

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Three Service Clubs To Meet Together

Dr. C. E. Selvy, of Detroit, medical consultant for all branches of the General Motors Corporation in United States and Canada, will speak at a joint meeting of Birmingham's three service clubs Wednesday noon at the Community House.

Farmer Swindled Of \$300 Savings

Victim of one of the oldest confidence tricks in the "business," Henry Trussell, farmer living off of Maple road 3 1/2 miles east of Birmingham, wonders whether he will ever see his \$300 again and the strange from Texas who had offered to buy his farm.

School Population Declining Here

Although the population of Birmingham is growing, there are fewer children enrolled in the schools here, according to the report of Howard D. Crull reported at the last meeting of the Board of Education.

City May Drop Playfield Project

A temporary injunction was issued Monday by Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty against the City of Birmingham, the School District, and the State Land Office Board in the suit brought by Mrs. Mary Parks.

Boys Throw Stones At Train Engineer

A certain engineer on the Grand Trunk Western lines is thinking seriously of wearing a helmet when he drives his locomotive through here. Last Saturday at 3:50 p. m., the engineer complained to police that two boys threw rocks at the train and that they got back its \$6,000 investment.

## Summer Recreation Director Appointed; Budget of \$1,800 Set

Another summer recreation program, hoped to be better than ever, is being planned for Birmingham by the new Recreation Commission. The new Recreation Commission, headed by L. C. Chapman, personnel adviser at Baldwin High School, has been named director of the program.

Urge New Voters To Attend Meet

First meeting of Birmingham's new Recreation Commission was held Monday evening at the Community House with a very informative discussion of the program.

City Fails to Stop Modernistic Gas Station on Hunter

An attempt to secure a non-modernistic type gasoline station on Hunter boulevard at East Maple, failed Monday night when the City Commission "gave in" to the modernistic design permit to the Shell Oil Corporation.

Public Invited To P. O. Luncheon

An invitation has been extended to residents of Birmingham to the luncheon that will be held Saturday afternoon at the Post Office building.

Court Rules Estate Is Subject to Tax

An estate inheritance tax on an estate of \$93,541, left by the late William M. Purves, automobile official who resided here, is involved in a case which last week was decided by Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore.

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Two Slot Machines Seized at Golf Club

Dulcie Krasnec, 12 year daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Krasnec, of the Birmingham Golf and Country Club, was fined \$10 and \$5 costs Monday when she was arraigned before Judge J. H. Doty on charges of operating two slot machines.

Girl, 12 Years Old, Is Spelling Champ

Dulcie Krasnec, 12 year daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Krasnec, of the Birmingham Golf and Country Club, was named spelling champion at the annual spelling contest at the Birmingham Golf and Country Club.

TESTED BY SALES!

It is sales, after all, which proves the worth of an advertising medium.

POPPIE DAY SET

Saturday, May 25, has been proclaimed in Birmingham as the annual Poppy Day for the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Beauty Rest Mattress Repaired

Beauty Rest Mattress Repaired. Royal Mattress Co., Phone 7M-1768.

## Whitney Not Candidate

The Commission, of which William Whitney was a member last Thursday night and appointed Chapman the director, Franklin Whitney, who was director last year, was not a candidate for the position this year.

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