

A free, responsible and aggressive Press is democracy's first line of defense

Knocking on Wood with JOHN H. HARWOOD

CIVIL RIGHTS AND WAR

THE necessity of facing facts is one of life's unpleasant realities. We all are prone to delude ourselves too much and too often. For example, a great many people still have the naive idea that England is fighting to save the world for democracy and that America would be doing the same if we joined forces with our cousins across the sea. Well, maybe we would and maybe we wouldn't, as was pointed out last Friday night at the Civil Rights Institute panel discussion held in Detroit.

The institute is an annual event designed to call people's attention to the fact that civil rights, unless vigilantly guarded, may be taken away from us while we sleep—perhaps even now in the midst of national defense.

What They Are Fighting For That point, I believe, is all-important in this present day debate over civil rights and the apparent conflict between democracy and dictatorship. First of all, England is fighting to preserve her liberties; the fact that she happens to be a democracy is something else. It is brasserie, under the leadership of the late dictator John Metaxas, concerned with saving the world for democracy? What about Turkey? If the United States is preparing to wage the battle for democracy throughout the world, it is not surprising that it recently suggested what about the dictatorship in Cuba and South America which we are little concerned with these days, the talk soon gravitated to the vital question: America's foreign policy. The question of civil rights appeared only incidentally. Mr. Haberman mentioned that already, in 1937, the United States had taken a step in this direction as an example of the recent case of a Senate in Washington, who have taken the right side in the fight against the groups that he had formerly been a member of the Communist party.

People's Column

The Birmingham Eccentric has received many letters from its readers. Some of them are of a nature that should be published in the Eccentric. If you have a letter that you wish to see in the Eccentric, please send it to the office by mail or by hand.

Mr. Wonnberger Replies to Editorial

Editor, The Eccentric: The author of the editorial "The People's Column" is ARE FLOURISHING, which appeared in last week's Eccentric. I am sure that you will find it interesting to read Mr. Wonnberger's reply to the editorial.

Mr. Wonnberger's reply to the editorial "The People's Column" is a very interesting and thoughtful contribution. He discusses the importance of education and the role of the press in a democratic society. He also touches upon the issue of civil liberties and the rights of the individual.

Boy Scouts Extend Service

Striking an encouraging note in the world, the extended work of the Boy Scouts of America is the largest youth organization. The men and boys registered in this federally-chartered group have pledged themselves to follow a program of strengthening and invigorating democracy in the United States. A nine-point program of service to the community and to the nation is being undertaken by more than a million and a half members of the Boy Scout Movement.

These twelve to sixteen year old boys, under the leadership of volunteer adult workers, are "bearing by doing." Faced with practical situations demanding instantaneous and intelligent reactions they are receiving valuable training for emergency crises. In this preparation, to act the Boy Scouts have pledged themselves to be "united with all lovers of freedom, whatever their race or color. To keep our nation strong in valor and confident in freedom, to that the government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

To this end the 47,000 Scout units throughout the country have made a total of 1,000,000,000 service projects. These projects range from local organizations, Troop Leagues, and Scout groups, to national organizations, such as the American Red Cross, the United States Army, and the United States Navy. The projects are of many kinds, but all are designed to serve the community and to the nation.

Col. Waldon Is Man for the Job

Perhaps you who read this may remember that, No. 1 man for the job of Michigan's southeastern counties voted themselves to work co-operatively for the development of what is known as the Byron-Clinton Parkway Project: Oakland County, together with Wayne, Macomb, Washtenaw, and Livingston Counties, is legally banded together to raise taxes to pay for needed highways and recreational areas.

Under the law, each county is to appoint, through its Board of Supervisors, a member of the seven-man Authority; the Governor appoints two members. Their terms stagger, and the majority will always be on the Board who have had experience on the Project.

Whom shall the Oakland County Board of Supervisors appoint? Well, there are no doubt quite a number of people who would be qualified for the job, but the one we think of first is Col. Sidney D. Waldon, the man who for years has crusaded for good roads and recreational projects; the man who, perhaps more than any other, waged a personal campaign for the success of the smattering of projects in the area.

Col. Waldon is a former U. S. Army aviator, a resident of Oakland County. He knows the engineering phases of a highway or recreational project, and has travelled over much of this earth, which has afforded him ideas that ought to be of value to the Authority; he is civic minded and knows his way around in matters affecting the relationship of citizens and their government.

Unhesitatingly, we recommend Col. Waldon as No. 1 man for consideration by the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, for appointment to this vitally important Byron-Clinton Parkway Authority.

IF THE ATTENDANCE at Baldwin high school football games here increases, due to the installation of lights at Pierce Field, so few complaints should be directed to the Board of Education for the expenditure of \$13,101.38 for that purpose. It is true that night playing ought to attract more people to the game; other communities that have done so have seen their attendance, increased revenues at their night gridiron events. The by-product of their night gridiron events is the social problems that may arise from student attendance at these games can be handled, if both parents and school officials determine to do so.

Armchair Philosopher

THE MEANING OF A LIBERAL EDUCATION The man who strives to educate himself—and no one else can educate him—must win a certain victory over his own nature. He must learn to smile at his own faults, analyze his own prejudices, scrap if necessary his fondest and most consoling belief, question his presuppositions, and take his chances with the truth. The greater the need of education, the stronger the resistance to it. No one who is merely a creature of his own nature is really educated. There is no such thing as a liberal education, but the historical accidents that separate them—Socrates, or a Plato, or a Cicero, or an Erasmus, or a Voltaire, or a Goethe, or a Huxley would be at home. Much as they differ, there is yet something which the educated have in common, a certain sense of duty that may not be defined, but that right-minded men recognize. It is the meaning of a liberal education. —Everett Dean Martin, in "The Meaning of a Liberal Education."

How Britain Expects to Win

There are many Americans who have some doubt as to the ability of any nation, or group of nations, to defeat Germany with-out a significant military effort. It is true that quite millions of men and women are engaged in the fight, but the British are actually believing that they can defeat Germany and it may be interesting to consider their argument. A 300,000,000 man army is not a force to be reckoned with. The weak link in the Hitler structure is the industrial system which is "brittle" and will crack up under the combined stress of the blockade and bombing.

While Hitler's conquests in Europe have caused the British to raise up the idea that the blockade alone will win the war, it has forced them to the conclusion that some pressure in the form of military, naval and aerial action will be necessary. They believe that the blockade will win the war, but that the military, naval and aerial action will be necessary to win the war. The bombing of German production plants is expected to hasten the wearing down process. Particular attention will be paid to the transportation facilities in Germany, which were essential to the war and in the case of Germany, to the war effort.

The bombing of German production plants is expected to hasten the wearing down process. Particular attention will be paid to the transportation facilities in Germany, which were essential to the war and in the case of Germany, to the war effort. The bombing of German production plants is expected to hasten the wearing down process. Particular attention will be paid to the transportation facilities in Germany, which were essential to the war and in the case of Germany, to the war effort.

How Liberty Lost

It is a question from which our English friends are giving us a lesson. Liberty is being lost in many ways. Liberty is being lost in many ways. Liberty is being lost in many ways. Liberty is being lost in many ways. Liberty is being lost in many ways.

Malus Floribunda BIRMINGHAM'S TREE

The tree which the Birmingham Garden Club has chosen to become Birmingham's tree, Malus Floribunda, is a cross between the French and African, the latter the Malus Africana. It is a cross between the French and African, the latter the Malus Africana. It is a cross between the French and African, the latter the Malus Africana.

If We Had No Churches

There are no churches in Birmingham. There are no churches in Birmingham. There are no churches in Birmingham. There are no churches in Birmingham. There are no churches in Birmingham.

Earth Worms in Flower Pot

Earth worms in flower pot. Earth worms in flower pot. Earth worms in flower pot. Earth worms in flower pot. Earth worms in flower pot.

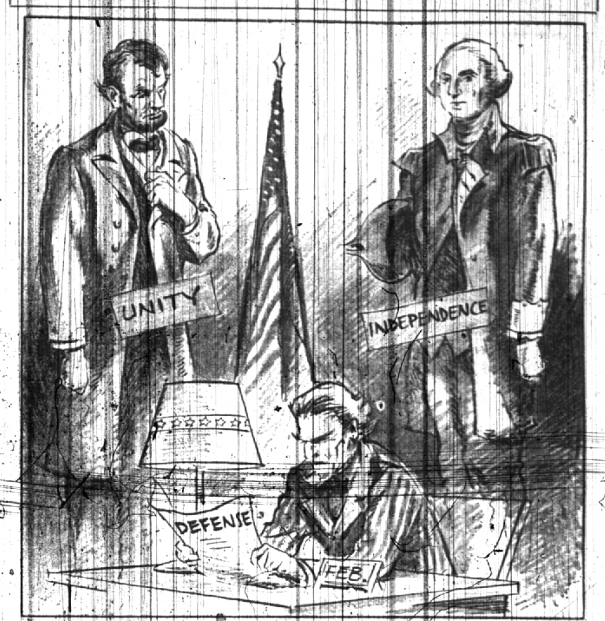
The Birmingham Eccentric

Subscription rates. Subscription rates. Subscription rates. Subscription rates. Subscription rates.

Submitting the Catalogue

Submitting the catalogue. Submitting the catalogue. Submitting the catalogue. Submitting the catalogue. Submitting the catalogue.

They, too, Had Tough Problems to Solve



Gardeners' Corner

This column is continued from the Eccentric under the title of "Gardeners' Corner." It is a column for gardeners, providing information on various plants and gardening techniques.

Meetings

Meetings. Meetings. Meetings. Meetings. Meetings. Meetings.

Parish

Parish. Parish. Parish. Parish. Parish. Parish.

Have You Met . . .

Have you met . . . Have you met . . . Have you met . . . Have you met . . . Have you met . . .

The Great American Home



All right, daddy, don't pull your punches and I won't pull mine.