

Editorial Page of The Birmingham Eccentric

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

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

THOSE COUNTRY VILLAGES
IF YOU want to get a new slant on things some time, pay a visit to a little village or country community. I did, last week-end, and I got a kick out of it.

Places of this sort are the reservoir whence come city dwellers who you'd be surprised how many of them are honest, rich, famous and powerful people. America has been built largely by men of brains and ambition who have found lowly economic origins no handicap at all in their effort to do things and become somebody.

In the little village I visited last week, the population, I learned, was almost the same as it was 30 years past. Of every generation, some remained to till the soil but the surplus made its way to the cities to become factory laborers, business men, doctors, lawyers, teachers, clergymen and the rest. Proximity to the soil and its attendant low incomes has not seemed to be any handicap to these people. In fact, I strongly suspect it was an advantage.

Learn Facts of Life
Rural folk learn very early the "facts of life," the principles of successful behavior. They discover that you can't get something for nothing, and that work—hard work—is the accepted norm. Country folk know that a man wants something, he must struggle on his own two feet and get out of the little fur it. That may sound terribly trite, but, to surprising how many parents don't appreciate it and how many young people ignore it.

In newspaper offices, I've seen beginners who were smart enough that they never learned how to work, and who never spent any of their thinking-time on ways and means of doing a better job. That, it was that week-end party, football game or some other diversion which had attracted the youngster, but rarely the short-sighted parents who feel they are preparing the offspring for life and honor by handing them everything on a platter. It just doesn't work out.

The economic and intellectual stratum does not reproduce it-

'Prophecy' Forecasts Fate of Nations

Protect the Children!
Beginning this week one million children will be out on the streets and highways in the city of Detroit. About 5,000 of the five thousand rural schools are in operation and from September 1, nearly every schoolhouse in the state will be open.

Highway surveys show that normal traffic is up forty per cent. Children are taught in our schools not to be good citizens and to co-operate with the traffic. On the left side of the roadway and out of the main beaten track, it is to observe stop and other caution signs.

Democracy, however, must work both ways. The child, along the highway has no control over the truck. The driver must assume his full share of the responsibility with a wide margin of safety for the child. Children between the ages of five and fourteen have shown the best of improvement of the pedestrian in the city. In the space of this, nearly every day of the year a child is killed somewhere on our highways.

Every motorist must remember that he has just as much control over a child as he has over a truck. A good rule to follow is to imagine the child will be met on the highway. Whether the child is on foot or on a bicycle, this will allow for any rapid movement of sudden decision.

The motorist should also think that the beginning of the school year, children are excited. They are new and new subjects, new jobs, new responsibilities on the driver's part. They will be the drivers of tomorrow, their driving habits, and attitudes will be formed largely by observing the motorists on the highways. Every operator of a motor vehicle should be a safe, thinking, and courteous driver.

Young people may find the coming of a good occasion to understand that the majority of those who live in this city do not worship money.

It is a faithful mind is impressed with the possibility of a fortune by some exceptional individual.

It is little realizing that such a fortune is not the result of hard work, but of a stroke of good luck, or a stroke of opportunity.

More and more individuals who do not earn their money, but who are in the possession of it, are not so hard.

If every young man who begins a business life in the next few years, gets thoroughly initiated into the idea of giving value for money, or of receiving the business, and the chances are that the people of this generation will find life a happier one.

What Admirals Byrd Think

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We'll Carry the Ball



People's Column
The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. It is a place where you can get your views on current events and issues. The column is edited by the staff of the Eccentric and is published weekly.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Don't overlook pattern pictures when you're out snapping.
They result in fine pictorial studies, adding variety and spice to your picture album.

TODAY'S PICTURE.
Good pictures often contain pattern effects. Sometimes it is a degree of development increases. For minimum graininess, the development should be just sufficient to produce a satisfactory printing contrast. However, the development should not be reduced to such an extent that graduation and detail are sacrificed. Many so-called "fine-grain" formulas on the market depend solely on underdevelopment for their results. Although these formulas do succeed in keeping the graininess down, they sacrifice detail and contrast. For best results the negative must be developed to enlarge well on a medium to hard contrast grade of paper. Contrast plates and extra-hard contrast papers should be resorted to only when subject contrast is very low.

Exposure
"Exposure is the next important factor influencing graininess. As the negative density increases, the graininess also increases. Since density increases with exposure, it is very important that overexposure be avoided if best fine-grain results are desired. You will find that the correct exposure meter will help avoid too dense negatives from which it is difficult to make prints to secure the best results.

Enlargers Affect It
Enlargers also affect the graininess of the print. Diffusion-type enlargers, which use a diffusion screen, emphasize whatever graininess is exhibited by the negative. It should be realized that the density of the enlargement also influences graininess in the print.

Eccentricities

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Unsecured and Co-Maker Loans
F. H. A. Modernization Loans
Automobile Loans

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING

Happenings of Long Ago

50 Years Ago
Sept. 10, 1901
Mrs. F. M. Thompson and Mrs. Robinson, Detroit ladies, bicycled from Detroit to Pontiac and returned with Mr. J. Clark and family in Birmingham on their way back and back to Detroit.

THE YOUNG SQUIRE
Sept. 10, 1901
Messrs. Flint and Staley were giving the A. W. Campbell's house and lawn, corner of High and Main streets, a new look, when completed, would greatly enhance the appearance of the building.

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