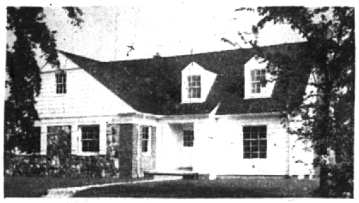
It is a fair statement, I think, that the average member of the nation's armed forces is more heart and soul in this war than the average citizen; so much more, indeed, that the fighting men are beginning to wonder if many of the selfish ones remaining behind are worth fighting for.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 22 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1942 | $1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

It's *Brand New!*



THERE will not be another new Ranch House for the duration. Arrangements are ideal—three bedrooms and tile bath on the second floor—a lovely bedroom with full tile bath on the first and a library with Philippine Mahogany panelling. The porch has access from the living room, dining room and kitchen.

Modern oil heat; easy to handle metal garage doors; a recreation room with fireplace; 14 closets and a 90 foot lot all add to the enjoyment and ease of living that awaits the new owner of 2130 Avon Lane.

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This five bedroom, two bath Colonial is available for immediate occupancy. . . . Two extra lavatories, large living room with fireplace, library, . . . Oil steam heat. . . . Two car garage attached. . . . Fenced in yard with nice shrubbery. . . . House in excellent condition and priced to sell. . .

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E. S. JACKSON and COMPANY

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How you can win your NAVY WINGS—
Apply: Naval Aviation Recruiting Station
106 East Fifth St., Royal Oak, Daily from 10 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Wonder Increases Over Alley Closing

The possibility of future excavations caused the City Commissioners to wonder Monday night whether property-owners along an east-side alley really want the alley closed.

Running from Adams to Dixie, parallel to East Maple avenue, the alley is one of the few in the City which covers sewer, water and gas mains. City Manager D. C. Egbert pointed out that if the alley is vacated and the land given back to the property owners (the alley has never been used as such), the City would have to obtain full easement rights. In other words, at any time necessary, excavations could be made to repair the facilities below.

"Knowing that, I wonder if people would make many improvements," he asked.

Mayor John E. Martz wondered about the legality of the easement, while the whole commission wondered how concerned the residents were about the issue, for none attended the hearing.

The matter was postponed for two weeks.

Aircraft Detection Corps Planned

LANSING—The Michigan Aircraft Detection Corps, a new defense unit to be responsible for the detection and reporting of enemy planes in areas determined by the Army, is being created by the Michigan Council of Defense. The new corps will have a special status under jurisdiction of the Michigan Council of Defense but will be placed at the disposal of military authorities. For operational purposes it will be attached to the council's Civilian Protection Division of which Capt. Donald S. Leonard is director.

Capt. Leonard has announced the appointment of Capt. Laurence A. Lyon, superintendent of the Uniformed Division of the Michigan State Police, as Chief of the MADC, with Durward Robson, of the Conservation Department, as his deputy. Members of the corps will be recruited from veterans' organizations and other sources and will be given intensive courses to fit them for the work.

What Your City Commission Is Doing . .

Bills approved totalling $10,898.60, including a two week payroll in the amount of $8,670.80.

Hearing on closing alley bounded by Yosemite, Dixie, Villa and Adams deferred for two weeks.

Birmingham Eccentric granted permission to move sidewalk manhole.

Manager reported that school board had passed resolution similar to that of County and City relative to taxes assessed on lands owned by the State through the Scavenger Sale.

Manager authorized to appropriate additional $200 for treatment of Japanese beetles.

Manager authorized to purchase gasoline from Standard Oil Company.

Curb cutting ordinance amended to provide that all applications for curb cut be referred to city engineer for approval.

Hearing on September 8th on Assessment Roll No. 235.

IRENE E. HANLEL
City Clerk

May Cut Electrical Contractors' Fee

A reduction in the license fee for electrical contractors may be made in Birmingham, it was indicated in the City Commission meeting Monday night.

"Contractors must pay a $25 fee but the business they get nowadays doesn't justify it," Commissioner Harry E. Bisset declared.

The matter will be given further study to determine whether a reduction would jeopardize a reciprocal arrangement with other nearby communities.

Government Buys 35% of Tomatoes

Harvesting of a record crop of tomatoes will be in full swing in Michigan within the next few days, with farmers receiving a much better price for their product, according to Leo V. Card, state commissioner of agriculture.

Fourteen canneries will operate on 24-hour shifts to process tomatoes and 35 per cent of their output will be purchased by the government.

Ink Stains On Hands

A solution of peroxide of hydrogen containing a few drops of ammonia will remove ink stains from the hands.

Electric Sewer Cleaners

All roots and other obstacles removed. We save you money. No results, no charge. Don't dig up your lawn. Call us.

All work guaranteed
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Phone R. O. 6699
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BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

There was quite a scramble last Friday afternoon at Dorchester and Edinburgh. Boys have built a free hut about 25 feet above the ground, and you should have seen them get out of it when it caught fire. A lantern was upset and the burning oil spread fast. There wasn't much left for the fire department to do but to keep the tree from burning further.

—o—

Mrs. Jennie Featherston, 1031 Knox, was driven out of her home last Thursday evening when something broke in her refrigerator, flooding the house with sulphur dioxide gas. Firemen carried the box outside and then set up a portable ventilating fan, which soon cleared the atmosphere.

—o—

There's nothing like Michigan weather. Last week we simmered; this week—at least during the fore part—we shivered. Monday morning, it was 38 degrees in Pontiac, and that's plenty cold for Aug. 24.

—o—

Steam and smoke poured from beneath the bonnet of the car of James Fox, 321 Lake Park, Sunday evening, but it was not a fire. A heater hose came loose and the hot engine did the rest.

—o—

In recent years, the trend has been all to oil in home heating, now some are putting in coal stokers—if they can get them.

—o—

According to a story in the Free Press, Mrs. Jeanette Klein Miller, of 2112 Yorkshire, has secured an injunction restraining her husband, Dr. Paul A. Miller, Detroit dentist, from changing the beneficiary in his insurance policies and from altering his bank account. She filed suit for separate maintenance for herself and their 18-month-old son, Paul, Jr.

—o—

Farm Security Administration officials visited the Cranbrook Academy of Art last week, bringing with them samples of weaving done by southern farm women. The academy, which includes weaving as one of its arts, helped start the project a year ago.

—o—

Don McLeese, 15-year-old Baldwin student, spoke at the Rotary Club meeting, Monday, telling of his experience at the recent Wolverine Boys' State held at East Lansing under the sponsorship of the American Legion.

—o—

We wondered what the 5-cent hamburger industry would do now that beef is so high. We have the answer. While strolling by the local "ivory" tower we noticed an announcement of a 10-center, which has been dignified with the title, "The Senator," if you please! A 15-center with everything on would probably be called "El Presidente."

—o—

It is about as hard to buy bananas nowadays as it is to rent a house.

—o—

Sunday night an electric wire running through some trees on West Maple lost its insulation and the wire was shorted. Firemen stood by until the Edison boys fixed it.

—o—

Saw Russ Fisher, our chief air raid warden, walking around with a wooden ratchet device which they are studying. It would be used in case of gas attack; that is, the wardens would dash up and down the street whirling this gadget, which really makes quite a noise. You've seen the smaller ones around July 4 time, no doubt.

—o—

Miss Helen Ransom, of Highland Park, was parked in Springdale park Sunday when "crash"! It was a golf ball which smashed her windshield.

—o—

Our young friend, "Bud," who lives over at Orchard Lake, doesn't know many people in Birmingham but gets The Eccentric, and says he always reads Bits of Birmingham.

—o—

L. Broaddus, of 1223 Cole street, told police Sunday that some one was shooting a rifle toward the direction of his house. Officers picked up two youths. As you may know, it is illegal to shoot a gun, including an air rifle, within the City.

—o—

J. D. Wade parked near the Birmingham theatre last Friday evening, and some hoodlum stole a lens and bulb from his headlight.

—o—

Police have many strange duties; for example, judging extricate small children who lock themselves in the bathroom and can't get out. Ralph Bell took care of such a call on Henley drive last Friday.

—o—

Have you met Mr. and Mrs. Norval W. Marlette, Jr., formerly of Detroit, who have moved into their new home at 26243 Vincennes road in Franklin? Mr. Marlette is with the Ford Motor Company as an airplane inspector in the Rouge plant. Mrs. Marlette, the former Melva Grimes, is an author and contributor to the Crime Club mystery series. Her third book, just completed and not yet published, is "Another Day Nearer Dying" and is a sequal to her first book "Devil Builds a Chapel." The second mystery she wrote was "Death Has 1000 Doors."

—o—

This Wanderer has been unable for one reason or another to attend the symphony concerts at the Greek Theatre, Cranbrook. However, last Wednesday night we were there and enjoyed it a great deal. The setting is perfect and even the crickets seem to keep in tune.

The kettle drummer really is fascinating. His drumheads never seemed to be adjusted quite right, and he was continually fooling with screw handles. Even in the midst of a terrific salvo he could find time to give 'em a twist, coming in on the downbeat just at the right split second.

—o—

The University of Michigan has sent us a supply of booklets advertising the coming football games. Anyone desiring a copy may stop at our office.

—o—

Mrs. Augusta Merrill, chief clerk at the draft office, is going back to her old home at Milton, Mass., where she originally acquired that New England accent. Of late, however, she has mixed it occasionally. So, when she returns to Milton, she will have to desist saying hawf half of the time, and say hawf all of the time.

—o—

The three members of the board, and fellow workers, bought Mrs. M. two nice pieces of luggage as a remembrance.

—o—

Mrs. Margaret Stringham (Mrs. Harrison J.) is the new assistant at the Baldwin Library, taking the place of that blonde young woman who was recently married. As a former English and dramatics teacher, Mrs. Stringham will find herself quite at home among the books.

—o—

Mrs. Ashwell, 283 East Lincoln (first name not obtained by police) reported last week that her daughter, Joan, 3 years old, had been bitten by the Fred Guckelberg dog, 1288 Edgwood.

—o—

"Consumer News" on the editorial page this week has to do with heat conservation. Here is one tip that this Wanderer will pass along, one that is valuable in mild weather. If you have an oil burner or coal stoker and it overheats your house, that is a sign that the maximum temperature control on the unit itself is set too high for mild weather. This control, which shuts off the motor before your furnace gets too hot, is the real money-saving control.

—o—

Birmingham's colony in Washington is still growing. Not long ago the Carl Bradts had a party and among those present were the Rudy Andersons, the Ken Martins, the Bill Tracys, the Jim Olivers, the Allan Joslyns and the Francis Palms. There are several others, of course, in the Capital.

That popular feature, the Junior Album, will resume next week after a summer vacation. Look for it on the editorial page.

—o—

A man held here the other day by police was not released until his wife showed up with his draft registration card. Everyone picked up nowadays has to show his card.

—o—

John L. Tracy, 359 Merrill street, the insurance man, was driving under the viaduct out East Maple Monday noon when a stone dropped from above shattered his windshield. He took after the youngsters responsible and caught them, so it was quite a scene at the police station Monday afternoon as the four rascals were grilled by officers. They will pay for the broken glass, of course.

—o—

A Grand Rapids teacher signed a contract to come here and teach but backed out when he discovered how hard it is to find dwelling space here. He must be a weak sister, so it is just as well he is staying in G. R.

—o—

Teachers always find it tough unless they pay rent all summer to hang on to their homes.

—o—

Mrs. Bertha Rohrer, Bloomfield Township, has filed suit for divorce from Richard N. Rohrer.

—o—

Stanley Campbell, of 807 Paddock street, Pontiac, was arrested Saturday at North Woodward and Hunter and charged with being disorderly. He will go to court Saturday.

—o—

This Wanderer is puzzled why many home owners who are going in to the military service desire to sell their homes. When the war is over, they will have to live some place, and one's assets, invested in real estate, are protected from inflation. Perhaps some of them wanted to sell any way and figured the market would be strong now.

—o—

Dan W. Kincaid, 292 Daines street, was driving on Adams near Ruffner last Wednesday when a boy about six years of age ran into the side of his car. The lad got up and ran away, not appearing to be hurt.

—o—

Two windows were broken last week in the A. W. Feiler newspaper depot on Hamilton street.

—o—

Stamp No. 8 of the War Ration Book will be valid for the purchase of five pounds of sugar any time until Oct. 31, 1942.

The stamp value will permit the disposition of stocks of 5, 10 and 25-pound packages of sugar now in the hands of refiners, wholesalers and retailers. It will also eliminate temporarily the burden of repackaging into smaller units now assumed by retailers.

—o—

Persistence, when it comes to cutting government red tape, sometimes wins. R. G. Hoover, Detroit builder, has tried since March to get an OK for 40 new houses on Holland avenue, and finally got permits for 10 of them. E. S. Jackson is the agent here for the development.

—o—

Rain does peculiar things. In one grocery store this Wanderer heard about Saturday, a large group was caught inside by the rain, while others going by came inside for shelter. So instead of just standing around, they proceeded to buy and buy, with the result that the place was sold out of many items before the day was over.

Military Objective?

Rev. Dr. Hewlett Johnson, dean of Canterbury Cathedral, inspects damage to the Archdeacon of Maidstone's residence on cathedral grounds, after a Nazi raid.

Show Soviet Films For Russian Relief

Three Soviet films will be shown at the Detroit Institute of Art Saturday, Aug. 29, at 7:30 p. m. by the United Russian War Relief Committee. "Wings of Victory," portraying the story of Valeri Chkalov, the Russian flier who made a non-stop flight from Moscow to America, and showing Soviet might and morale, will be the feature presentation. "Heroic Sevastopol" and "Polish Troops in the USSR" will complete the showing. Tickets are $5 cents and may be secured at 1217 Penobscot Bldg., 2449 Carpenter, and the Institute the night of the presentation.

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Mr. Markley will gladly give complete information . . . ask to see interesting pictures . . .

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