

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

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

I SHUDDER TO THINK

Few living Germans in the homeland have ever tasted the uttermost dregs of wartime cruelty. In the last war it was France and Poland which bore the brunt of the destruction; the Germans knew hunger, yes, and lost their loved ones in battle, but their countryside and cities were not reduced to rubble, nor did an Army of Occupation impose its will. I shudder to think what will be the fate of Germany when the Russians and others take vengeance for Nazi brutality.

I don't think that a haughty Holland or Switzerland will save Nazi leaders from the Russians, who, whether we like it or not, will be the dragsman on the continent of Europe and Asia when this conflict is over. Knowing that Britain and America have been Allies gradually, the Russians are not likely to be influenced by our counsel when the fight is on the ground against them.

How much is true of the stories we hear about Nazi atrocities? One must be on guard against propaganda; of course, but the Germans admit their harsh treatment of the Jews and Poles, and any group which would murder its own like an animal in the name of Nazism would be a disgrace. It is not to be expected that they would show little mercy to Jewish enemies. I have heard of the ghastly camps in which Nazi concentration camps have been conducted and of the evidence from many quarters is too convincing.

Not all German officers are of the Nazi mentality. Just last week came a story of a submarine commander who refrained from shell-shooting the British ship, the range, and there have been other evidences that some decency still exists in the minds of some of the foe.

The Japs, too, have aroused us by their attack on Pearl Harbor at a time when their ships were still talking peace, and by their ganging of parking rights and of tickets.

MacArthur is Right. Despite all this, I think we should take our cue from General MacArthur, who despite his age and his men are in, still acts like a gentleman. Last week he praised the enemy for its bravery in attempting to storm a certain position.

There is nothing to be gained in our sinking to the level of our enemies. That will not end the war any quicker and it will make more distant the day when we are feeling and trust shall return to the world. Some may think it will be good thing that the Russians "teach Germany a lesson," but I doubt it. Nazi leaders ought to be taken care of, I do believe, but what is to be gained from punishing a whole people—70,000,000 of them—by force most realize that their suffering is largely the result of Nazi leadership.

On the Home Front. Returning home, we note that Dave Levinson, our Birmingham supervisor who is chairman of the County Board, has called for reform to reduce the size of that body from the second largest in the State and unwieldy. He also called for centralized purchasing. You're on the right track, Dave!

The U. S. O. plans to operate at least one clubhouse at every U. S. Navy base and permission will be arranged to introduce sailors to civilian families so that Uncle Sam's seaman can get a taste of home life during their stay in port.

As an indication of the amount of food it requires to feed the sailor in the U. S. Navy, more than 2,468,000 more eggs, 1,000,000 pounds of fruit and 1,000,000 pounds of feet personnel during the next year.

The most important single investment in a U. S. Navy submarine is the hull. The hull of the water pressure on the outside by which members of the crew can tell the depth in feet.

No "Compromise Peace" Possible

You can read almost anything including "verified" accounts of internal trouble in Germany and "authentic" repetitions of "peace feelers" being put out by Germany.

It is just as well for the United Nations to make up their minds to win the present war by force of arms, without regard to weakness in Germany, and to discount all stories which relate to German yearnings for peace on the basis of the 1917 status quo.

It may be somewhat difficult for us to realize that Germany and Japan believe that together they can win the present war. The leaders of these nations understand the potential resources of their enemies but they are confident that, upon vital battle areas, they can exceed superior force.

There is no logic whatever in any compromise peace between the nations now at war. The aggressors have set up a new standard of international conduct and assert the superior rights of their people as compared with other peoples. Neither Germany nor Japan has recognized the restraint of accepted morality, because they do not give recognition to the divine personality of mankind.

The present struggle can end only in the death of the German and Japanese ideal, or the extinction of free peoples accustomed to liberty and the ways of democracy. The decision must be complete, final and everlasting. The winner, whichever side it may be, will dominate the world for hundreds of years and impose upon the vanquished the victor's ideal of civilization, including economic, political and social organizations.

Fifth-Column Dangers

Congressman Martin Dies, heading a committee investigating anti-American activities in our nation, recently told Congress that, unless pro-Nazi, pro-Fascist, and pro-Japanese groups in and out of our government are eliminated, "... there will occur on the west coast a tragedy that will make Pearl Harbor sink into insignificance compared with it. I speak with all the sincerity that is in my heart when I urge this Congress and this administration to view this question not from an attitude of coddling people or of maudlin sentiment, but to view it from the standpoint of the preservation of America and American institutions." Mr. Dies said on the floor of Congress that, prior to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, he had made available to our military forces facts his committee had collected about fifth-column activities in Hawaii; and that the military forces apparently paid little attention to them. "Verily, verily, Capitol Hill in Washington appareth in many things on the "non-alert."

Decreasing the number of home deliveries of various retailers is not only a war emergency savings, but also suggests that in peacetime such procedure will conserve the nation's resources. All sensible customers will agree on this point.

Who Reads the Bible Today?

An inquisitive man, in another State, recently wondered how many "ordinary people" read the Bible nowadays and he made something of an investigation among a variety of types.

While he found some exceptions he discovered that most of the people he interviewed had "not seen a Bible for fifteen years."

This is an astounding report concerning the wonderful compilation of books, which we call the Bible, and which, it is generally believed, has affected the destiny of mankind more than any other literature ever produced.

Whether the observation applies to this area or not, we do not know, but we sincerely hope that the people of this county have not become so blasé as to pass up the opportunity of enjoying the great spiritual truths that the Bible presents to men.

To many persons, we presume, approach the Bible as a solution of their material troubles and the remedy for physical ills. They seek to discover the answer to immediate issues and overlook the values that abound in the development of individual personality.

Certainly, we would not attempt to interpret the Bible for other people, but we make no apology for suggesting that it presents a mind and a philosophy that will endure through the ages. Its lessons, even in part, are immortal and the man or woman who imbibes the great teachings will serve the present world and, as we conclude, develop a spiritual force that will not die.

AMONG MICHIGAN OFFICIALS up for re-election this fall is Senator Prentiss M. Brown, of St. Ignace, a Democrat. He is a very able man, esteemed and respected even by his Republican colleagues. So far, we fail to observe any Republican of Brown's stature rise up to challenge his re-election for another term.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of the paper. All copy must be presented before noon on Wednesday. The right is reserved, however, to make such superficial changes in the work submitted as are necessary for the style of the paper and as are required by laws of the state. Breaking a mechanical situation in the composing room, headlines written by those other than members of the staff cannot be used. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric, will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.



THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

CHAS. B. CHARMATZ, P. S. A., Editor

BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO DEVELOPING AND PRINTING. Developing the Negative. The production of brilliant full-toned prints from small negatives calls for the utmost care, precision, and cleanliness in negative developing.

- 1. An adjustable roll film developing tank with a reel of the proper size.
2. Two or more stainless steel film clips.
3. A quart graduate, or beaker of glass, or enamelware.
4. One quart of the grain developer and standard brand, preferably that recommended by the makers of the film you use.
5. A tank thermometer.

People's Column

The Postmaster is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications should be kept confidential and should be sent to the Post Office, Birmingham, Ala. 35202, and published in the following Thursday.

Wants Longer Hours at the Post Office

Editor, The Eccentric: Well, we see the local Postmaster is right on his toes, face down Saturday, at 1:15, we tried to buy our automobile, and the clerk used up from his office door that the post-office was closed, and the stamps were locked.

We explained that it was very difficult for us to get in anytime during the week, and he didn't make any difference to him. He explained to us, "We have had it."

Well, there you are, another New Deal with the cards all stacked in his favor. I don't think anytime the public will take it. We also found out the door of a notice that the Government might not be "off" actually, but during the hours when all of the clerks are working overtime two or three nights a week, the Post Office actually reduces its hours. In other words you go up there to wait an urgent piece of material and you find the clerk is not in the territory, and what do you say? The Post Office closed.

THE No. 1 editorial in Wednesday's "Free Press," the last paragraph reads as follows: "Use Tax stamps on sale in the proper quantities at duly designated places throughout the Birmingham area. Government service to appreciate that war requires an efficiency they have never experienced to exert. The real mystery is why the tax-paying public must continue to support such inefficient servants at a time calling for complete unity of effort."

The instructions which follow are for developing panchromatic film, which are the best all-purpose film for amateur and professional use. Orthochromatic films, such as Verichrome and Planachrome, used for certain special purposes, are developed in exactly the same way, except that the film may be loaded on a reel of the tank in a darkroom lighted by a deep blue safelight. The series DA safelight used for enlarging cannot be used for film.

Having carefully read the directions which come with the tank, practice loading it—first in daylight, later in complete darkness—using a roll of unexposed film, or better still, waste film, for this purpose, to familiarize yourself with the way it is attached to the tank leader.

The writer has found that the best way to load the film is to detach the film from the leader completely, allowing the latter to fall back into a separate roll. All this before starting to load the film into the reel. After no paper in the way, this is easier.

Having learned by practice to load the tank correctly, select the dark room (and be sure it is dark) for actual work. Take your piece of film standing, before a table or bench on which are laid out, in the most convenient arrangement, the reel (adjusted to the right opening for the width of your film), the tank, the cover of your tank, the roll of film to be developed, and finally, a pair of scissors.

Lock the door so that by one can't break in, turn the light switch break the seal on the roll of exposed film, wind off and discard the Scotch tape with which the film is attached to the leader. Take the scissors and bring all of the corners of the film which will lead into the reel. Now grasp the reel in the manner prescribed in the directions that come with the tank, and gently force the film through the reel channels. Be sure to handle it only by the edges, to avoid finger marks on the emulsion. When all the film is in the reel, and the end is secured behind the lock, place the reel in the tank being developed, with some to spare, can be learned from the tank directions, or by an actual test with plain water, to prepare the tank adjusted to the tank, with no film in it.

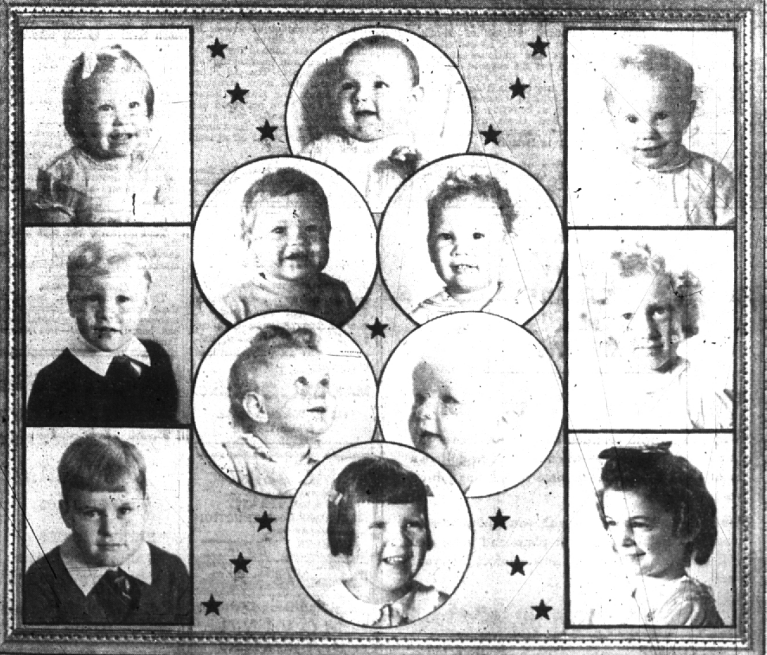
At the beginning of the development, the developer should be followed to the letter. Measure out the required amount of developer, in a beaker or graduate, and pour this quickly and evenly into the tank through the loading mouth of the lid. At the same instant start the interval timer, or note the exact time with a clock. If directions call for 15 minute development the time should begin when you start pouring the developer in, and should end as you begin to pour it back into its bottle.

At the beginning of and during development, agitate the tank 10 times, by shaking, if a metal tank, or by turning the tank, if plastic tank. If the developing time is 20 minutes, agitate every 2 minutes; if 15, agitate every 1 1/2 minutes; if 10, agitate every 1 minute. (To Be Continued)

CAMERA CLUB ACTIVITIES. The Photographic Guild of Detroit is pleased to announce that its meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month in the Science Auditorium, 1000 University Campus Hall, U. of D. Livernois Avenue, just south of West Nichols road.

'A Junior Album'

Presenting young people of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Franklin... Business and social stars of the future...



LEFT, reading from top down: Emily, John and Ned, children of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hazgen, 1424 Dorchester. RIGHT, top down: John William and Patricia Dale, children of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Spencer, Jr., 521 Fairfax; Mary Jane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Delahanty, 32549 Lahser; CENTER, top and left to right: Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Grimes, 963 Parkside. This feature arranged by the Beatrice Studio, Birmingham.

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