

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

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

BATTLE OF PROPAGANDA

While bullets and bombs fly throughout the world, the barrage of propaganda and counter-propaganda also continues entering into the fray.

For example, Secretary Knox has been busy in the past few days in the effort to bring attention to stories that the German Army is still the "best in the world."

Happenings of Long Ago

50 Years Ago Jan. 21, 1891

Mr. and Mrs. Schanheit were most happily surprised last Friday evening when a sleigh-load of about twenty of their young friends from Royal Oak came in, bringing music with them.

The Post Office was to be moved across the room, a change which authorities thought would improve the situation.

Two masterpieces and nine homes in this village, eight and nine homes, are in a mental state.

Mrs. S. Wooster entertained Mrs. Henry Kimball and Mrs. Winnelly, of Pontiac, one day last week.

Mrs. H. E. Harty, of Boston, Mass., visited Mrs. Nellie Camp last week.

Another daughter had arrived in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Sly.

Four new stores were to be erected on West Maple Avenue by the H. G. Field Construction Company.

Second floors of the buildings were to be rented for offices.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Roy had moved into their home in North Woodward avenue to their new home on Poppleton.

The Birmingham National Bank selected the following officers: Elmer Brooks, chairman; Almeron Whitehead, president; Charles J. Shain, vice-president; M. T. Jarvis, cashier; Charles B. Randall, assistant cashier.

Mrs. Sarah Purdy was building a home on Purdy street.

Benjamin Gordon entertained 28 guests at a party in her home on Southfield road, Wednesday last.

Harry Booth, 23, of Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, was internally injured last week while sliding down hill.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Hotelling, of Brown street, were entertaining Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Baker, of Crystal lake.

Miss Evangeline Parcell, for 11 years a teacher in the Baldwin High School, resigned during the past week to take a position in the Detroit school system.

Hamilton Easton had been hired to take her place.

Tuesday to the office of Oakland County Coroner to succeed the recently deceased Desney Kimball, who died last Saturday.

Nancy Weeks was elected to the Student Council of Eastfield School at Hendersonville, N. C., recently.

Two hundred Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills women attended the annual benefit-bridge for the Starr Commonwealth Home for boys, which was held at the Community House.

The Adams' basketball varsity team is the topic for the most attractive border in the Adams School. It consists of miniature figures of Ed Dancy, Don Gilbert, Don Melrose, Bob Tyson, Dan Bryson, Bob Little, Billingsley, Ralph Cole, Joe Hardig, and Jim Coulter.

The border was arranged by Edith Kendall, Nancy Moritz, Joan Louffer, Colleen DeVaney, Clara White, Greta Pelt, and Mary Woberg.

Styles to Help Morale

According to three of the nation's leading designers, women's fashions will be colorful and feminine in an effort to lift morale.

It appears that the woman of today must accept her role in the defense of the nation by retaining and enhancing her femininity.

Jean Schlumberger says that the day of the glamorous evening gown has ended; soft feminine styles in pinks or blue will replace bright yellows and more daring.

Miss Lilly Dache says that gowns will be more frivolous and more daring.

Mrs. George Schlee says that women will not dress in vulgar bright colors because they will be out of place in the company of a man in uniform or in a business suit.

She believes that dignity, elegance, and cheerfulness will influence wartime design.

The morale of a nation does depend in large part on the women of that nation. Overworked business men who have had the task of keeping the wheels of industry moving at top speed and the men in uniform who fight for our freedom will undoubtedly be lifted in spirits at the sight of a cheerful and feminine form.

The women of the nation not only owe it to national defense but to themselves as well to dress so as to help morale, and in general to make the most of their appearance.

However, we are inclined to believe that changing the style of women's dress will not help the morale of the nation, as much as just any new dress will help the morale of the women of the nation.

LAST WEEK'S ECCENTRIC said that "Birmingham may retire its ancient high-wheeled fire truck." In these days of tire restriction a mere hyperbolic makes a lot of difference between the words "retire" and "re-tire," eh?

POSTMASTER JOSEPH A. BYRNE reports that 1941 was the largest, in business, ever experienced by the Birmingham postoffice. Receipts from stamps and boxes totaled \$83,684.92. A fifth rural route is to be added, too, Mr. Byrne states. That is fine.

HAVE YOU YET PAID YOUR winter coats and school taxes, due without penalty by Friday last? After January 10 a four per cent penalty is added. Better get 'em paid. Folks, so you can get ready for the March 15 payment to Uncle Sam.

Mexico Proves A Friend

In the rush of more important events, the people of the United States have, to some extent, overlooked the action of Mexico and other Central American countries in coming to the support of this country in the present world crisis.

It is interesting to observe that Mexico recently severed diplomatic relations with Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary and that the Foreign Ministry, in its announcement, said that the act was taken because these countries had declared war on the United States.

Not many years ago it was the common belief among many responsible officials of this country that, in the event of war, Japan would promptly establish bases on the west coast of Mexico and it was believed possible that the act was taken because these countries had declared war on the United States. This opinion flourished during the strained diplomatic relations which existed between the United States and Mexico last Friday, thanks to an enlightened policy of forbearance, the United States is happy to be able to count Mexico among its good friends and to rely upon the Mexicans to assist in the necessary steps to protect Mexico territory, from being used by the enemies of the United States.

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 Wednesdays. The right is reserved, however, to make such editorial changes in the work submitted as may be necessary to the style of the paper and as are required by laws of the state. Because of a mechanical breakdown 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.

Twenty-six—Count 'em



THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

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

A List of Books on Photography Obtainable at Baldwin Public Library. A few weeks ago your editor mentioned that many excellent books on photography were obtainable at our own Birmingham Baldwin Public Library.

Save For Victory! In an effort to help regain empty filmstrips, cartridges, filmcassette containers for re-use, the Birmingham Camera Club is appealing to camera owners throughout this vicinity to join the "Save For Victory" campaign.

Local photographers are urged to keep their items in good condition and when a reasonable quantity has been saved, please deposit them at the office of The Eccentric.

The Birmingham Camera Club will turn over payment for materials to the American Red Cross.

Camera Club News. Over 50 members, guests and visitors attended the Jan. 17 meeting of the Birmingham Camera Club to hear an excellent lecture and demonstration on indoor portrait lighting given by Clifford Clark, of the General Motory Photographic Studio.

The next meeting of the Birmingham Camera Club will be held Tuesday, 8 p. m., Jan. 27, at Community House.

Save It! Love may be blind, but the average mother-in-law is an eye opener.

A Junior Album

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



This group comprises all of the children of the faculty at Cranbrook School and Academics. TOP ROW: Todd, son of Dr. Davis. FOURTH ROW: Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Gilbert, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Yale, Tommy, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Nickerson, William, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon B. Kallert. SECOND ROW: Robert and Richard, sons of Mr. and Mrs. William Schultz, Deborah and Patricia, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Hoey, Sigmund, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Snyder. THIRD ROW: Jo Ann and Nancy Alice, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Wona-berger, Dwight, Teddy and Herbert, children of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. and Mrs. R. J. Hill, Donald, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Raymond, Thompson, Peter and Richard, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Hatt, Donald and Karen, children of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Friedrich. FIFTH ROW: Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Boardman, Menai and John, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Coulter, and Shirley and Edith, daughters of Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Schoenfeld. This feature arranged by the Reatzer Studio, Birmingham.

Local Progress

While war news has monopolized the headlines, there are significant things going on at home.

Louis A. Sims is the new commissioner of the new State Revenue Department, which is the first effort made within a hundred years to take the politics out of tax collecting.

The new state purchasing system, claimed to be non-political, reports.

A law has gone into effect which allows Oakland County to esopate, paying two coroners \$2,000 a year each—a salary the office isn't likely to pay.

Coroners are somewhat of a luxury point out five cases where a coroner's investigation has resulted in the prosecution of some one whom the police and prosecutor would not have nabbed anyway.

Another movement is under way to allow counties to modernize their government if they want. It wouldn't believe, it would you, that rural counties are opposed to Wayne County's reorganization, but it's true, despite all the free education and civics classes and patriotism.

Rural Michigan must not permit any new ideas to crop out. They sneer at Wayne's corruption but will not let Wayne do anything to correct it.

Complete Banking Service

Pay-As-You-Go Checking Accounts Commercial and Savings Accounts Collateral and Life Insurance Loans Unsecured and Co-Maker Loans F. H. A. Modernization Loans Automobile Loans

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING

KODAK REPAIRS 25% OFF Have you an old camera on the shelf that needs fixing up? For the next few weeks Eastman will repair any of their Kodaks or cameras at 25% less than the regular price. Your camera will be fully reconditioned and checked. With today's film will probably take better pictures than when it was new. The complete overhaul for a box Brownie will be no more than 94c at these special rates. BRING YOUR CAMERA IN NOW. Take advantage of this special price offer before it is too late. Wilson Drug WOODWARD AT MAPLE Kodaks EASTMAN Films Developing 24 HOUR SERVICE Printing