Plan Registration of Women Willing to Go Into War Industry

To a person away from home, one of the nicest things that can happen is the receipt of a letter from his friends and relatives. That, in the life of a soldier or sailor in the military forces today, is especially true; which is my suggestion to you, if you have a friend or relative now working for your Uncle Sam.

The Birmingham Eccentric

OVER THE TOP FOR VICTORY with UNITED STATES WAR BONDS-STAMPS

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 17 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1942 | $1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

That hefty California shipyard worker who telegraphed President Roosevelt for special aid in getting himself large enough clothing will probably swing a deftier sledge, now that he's been helped. His telegram provided a bit of humour, even for these hard war days. I hope there'll be plenty more of such situations to get on the press wires for the duration; for heaven help any nation that can't laugh now and then.

We noted a recent news story headed: "German Bomber Crew Interned in Turkey." Too bad it didn't read: ". . . fried in Greece."

You have read that a certain James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, has refused to allow Interlochen's National Music Camp to broadcast its programs over the radio; thus is American musical youth denied the right to an audience outlet. Petrillo, as we recall, rose up to his present place from an ordinary orchestra member in Chicago by routes not entirely within ethics and high ideals. In his own sphere, he is as ruthless and arbitrary as a dictator. It is difficult to understand why the vast majority of American musicians don't rise up and throw him out.

So some of the Army and Navy boys are said to want to get special priorities of critical materials, just so they can finish the unfinished Ponchartrain Club edifice in Detroit, and move into this palatial home. Sounds to me as though some of the "smart" boys close to the property want the government to help them complete a job they failed to do. If this be so, then here is an example of selfishness in the nth degree.

Here's a current situation worthy of more than casual notice. An Indiana Justice of the Peace allows traffic offenders for the first time to go free by either purchasing a $10 War Stamp or paying a $5 court fine. At first, the idea appears to have a humorous twist; but it does suggest that American patriotism is in need of peculiar stimulation when such a device is resorted to, don't you think?

An osteopath has said that the habit of sitting on one's foot results in eventual back ache. I have noted this tendency—sitting—among quite a few young folks; whether or not the osteopath is right, I know that the future national debt burden will make many backs ache. (I don't think that folks object so much to the war debt as they do to the "political debt.")

Now that women have been given military rank in our armed forces, some of them will come out of this war with ranks higher than their men folks. Imagine a postwar husband saying: "Colonel may I have a pass to go to this city for the evening?" (And will she give him plenty of "kitchen police" duty?")

U. S. Senator W. Lee O'Daniel, he of the hill-Billy-band idea of campaigning, is on the road again this summer, for re-election. Now he has two bands with him. He used to be a flour salesman, and yodelled himself first into the Governor's chair of the Lone Star State. If his voice holds out, and his bands don't bust their strings, reeds, etc., the Texas love of cowboy music'll probably put him right back in the Upper Chamber. (Thus one ought to change the type of Lee's numbers to "chamber music.")

Now that prices and wages are getting into the nation's economy attic, I note that the President is going to ask Congress for some "hard-boiled" control legislation. Well, as the sage of Brushville would say: "Politics can't always have its hungry way."

I do hope that the federal government gets that Florida barge canal through by 1946 so that Congress can appropriate more money to turn it into a large ship canal and finish it by 1960 so that we can still be paying for it by the year 2000.

"Politics," I am convinced, is the art of changing utter foolishness into Socratic logic; it is the method by which clever talking folks lather us much at the mouth that the taxpayers—so busy with their own pleasures—like to be trimmed of too much of their money. However, whatever may be the cost of self-government and its offspring, "politics," it is giving us more freedom for our money than any other type of government on earth today.

SOME PEOPLE BELIEVE IN LUCK —others own insurance policies, safeguarding against loss by Fire, Windstorm, Burglaries, accidents, etc. Call or phone 321.

J. B. HOWARTH & SON
National Bank Bldg.

Will Register Women Here For War Work

Seek Names of Those Willing to Enter Industry

Registration of Birmingham women to determine the number available and willing to take jobs in war industries will be conducted here during the week of Aug. 10.

This announcement was made jointly today by Ernest Kanzler, regional director of the War Production Board, and Edward L. Keenan, regional representative of the U. S. Employment Service.

With the expanding war production program in Wayne and surrounding counties threatened by an impending shortage of male workers, the voluntary registration of women is expected to provide a worker reservoir that can be tapped when all available manpower is put to work.

The registration will cover approximately 650,000 women in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties. It is the first of its kind ever attempted in a major war production area and probably will serve as a guide for other parts of the nation, where the labor supply problem becomes acute.

Of the 650,000 women to be registered in the Detroit area, upwards of 80,000 will be needed in war plants between now and next November, sponsors of the registration have estimated. According to the estimates of labor sup-

(See REGISTER, Page 2)

Edison Franchise Will Be Voted on

A special election is likely in the near future to provide the Detroit Edison Co. with a new franchise.

The old contract, granted by the people in 1908, expired in 1938 and since that time, the company has been operating at the pleasure of the City Commission under an automatic renewal feature of the old franchise.

The new franchise, submitted by attorneys of the power company, provides that rates shall not be higher than those charged for similar service in the City of Detroit. It will run for 30 years and requires approval of three-

(See FRANCHISE, Page 2)

Juvenile Film Player Here From Hollywood To Visit His Sister

One of Hollywood's leading juvenile stars, Freddy Musser, or Freddy Mercer, as he is known on the screen, was in Birmingham on Tuesday evening, visiting at the E. L. Birthrong home on Rivenoak avenue. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. F. C. Musser, of Detroit, and the brother of Mrs. Jack Birthrong.

Freddy was co-star in the movie, "On the Sunny Side," which appeared at the Bloomfield Theatre last week and is in Pontiac this week. The young star and his mother, in Detroit on a surprise visit from California, revealed that he has just signed a three-year contract with R.K.O. His latest pictures will appear in the August issue of "Screen Romance." Freddy has just finished "The Loves of Edgar Allen Poe," in which he plays the poet as a boy; this will be released in the early fall. While in Detroit he was a boy soprano in the St. Paul's Episcopal Church choir. With his mother he has been in Hollywood around two years.

Is A Dog's Life Tough? Not When Air-Conditioned

By KATHRYN UMPHREY

One of the doggiest towns we know—that's Birmingham. Its most famous for a newcomer, when asked why he moved here, is to say enthusiastically, along with other reasons, "and we can have a dog out here." And have them they do, for rare is the home in this city that doesn't boast of many dog-owners.

Consequently The Eccentric feels that a resume of an ideal dog's life would be of interest to its readers. The Jagersbo Kennels, on North Adams road, was chosen for investigation, and its proprietor, Erik Bergishagen, gladly told us how their dogs live.

How Wonderful!

In the first place the Jagersbo Kennels are air-conditioned, kept at a constant temperature of 70 degrees, winter and summer. The dogs' day begins at 7:30 a. m.—it would be earlier if it weren't for the neighbors—when they are let out of their pens, each into his own runway for exercise. Each pen is washed and disinfected, then the animals are fed and given water. Later each dog is looked over and washed—a white enamel bathtub is used for this operation. In the same room plucking and trimming is done. Then, unless the dog is being trained, he is through for the day.

Dogs are fed either once or twice a day, depending on their condition and the amount of exercise they take. Mr. Bergishagen feeds his canine customers raw beef meat and a cooked dog food. The recipe for the latter is his own and he declined to give it out; however, he did say that it usually contained vegetables such as mashed beets, onions, or spinach —never carrots as dogs can't digest them.

Probably Homesick

Oddly enough the springer spaniel, ordinarily a quiet, affection-

(See DOGS, Page 2)

Would Serve

—Photo courtesy The Detroit News

MOLLY CARNEY, of Birmingham, who hopes to be accepted for service with the WAAC.

Salvage of Paper For Recreation Stops After Fire

Birmingham's paper salvage project, which has operated continuously for seven months, closed Monday until further notice, according to Mrs. J. Rowland Quinn, chairman.

The decision to close at this time was brought to a head by a small fire which broke out Sunday afternoon at the paper salvage depot, at Hunter and East Maple, in a loose pile of papers left by some householder after the depot had closed Saturday. The fire was discovered by Lee Judkins, operator of the near-by gas station.

Opened in December

The project, 3rd suggested last fall to the Recreation Commission as a means to additional community recreation funds, as well as a contribution to the national defense effort, by former Supt. of Schools Howard Crull, opened Dec. 15, under the sponsorship of the Recreation Commission, and was operated until March by an A.W.V.S. committee headed by Mrs. Glen Davis. Following the resignation of Mrs. Davis and her committee, Mrs. Quinn assumed the chairmanship in March with Mrs. Russell Barnes as vice-chairman.

Mrs. Quinn's committee included, in addition to Mrs. George T. Hendrie and Mrs. William Essery, also Recreation Commission members, a group of 15 zone chairmen,

(See SALVAGE, Page 2)

Harold Kuder Heads War Transportation

Harold Kuder, secretary of the Wabeek Corporation, has been named chairman of Birmingham's War Transportation Committee, Mayor John E. Martz announced this week.

Kuder said Wednesday he was seeking information from the State organization on the sort of setup needed in a small city, and that he would call a meeting of the whole committee as soon as possible.

Members, besides Kuder, are Charles E. Lewis, H. Victor Spike, C. A. Wacker, Raymond Handyside, C. A. Jessup and Leo B. Billings.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The July meeting of the Board of Education will be held next Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock.

WAAC Gets Applications From 2 Here

Molly Carney, attractive 21 year-old junior at the University of Michigan, was among the first to enlist as an auxiliary in the new W.A.A.C. this week. She is the daughter of Captain and Mrs. Harry B. Carney, of 551 Kennesaw avenue, and is the first Birmingham girl, to the knowledge of The Eccentric, to offer her services as an auxiliary in the Woman's Army. Those who enlisted this week will be notified within a few weeks as to whether or not they are accepted.

Miss Carney hopes that she will be taken because, as she put it, "I've been wanting to do something to help out. I think that this war is more than a proposition of just what one army will do to another army, it's whole nations against nations. I think everyone ought to do as much as he can. I am in a position where this is something I can do, and I certainly want to."

Wants Air Work

Asked what branch she would like to enter, she replied that she would like to have something to do with the air service. Her father is an Army captain, D.A.C., a branch of the service that sets up new airports, and is stationed at Dayton, so it is little wonder that she is air-minded. Molly is a journalism student at the University and is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Miss Dorothea Hilliard, who has been living at 625 Ridgedale for the past year, enrolled earlier in the session for WAAC service, training and received word this week that she had been accepted. She will report for duty at Des Moines, Ia., on Aug. 2.

Recruiting for officers has closed but girls now may enlist as auxiliaries—a position similar to that of a private in the regular army—and will be given an opportunity to work up to an officer's rating. The auxiliaries are to take over the routine non-combatant work now being done by soldiers in order to release more men for active fighting.

50 Youths 'Wreck' City Disposal Plant In Commando Raid

By BILL ROBERTS

In a low voice the leader gave his orders: "Commandos, forward!"

Down the hill, through the low brush they advanced on their objective. In mud and water up to their necks, with the bodies blackened they were almost invisible in the black of the night. Not a sound was heard except for the occasional sound of a swamp bird calling to its mate.

'Dynamite' Placed

The objective was reached. The dynamite was placed in strategic spots. Soon the ammunition dump would be blown to bits. The Commandos then returned to their base of operations.

This event may seem far away to many Americans but it took place last Saturday night in Birmingham. It was the first practice raid of the newly organized Birmingham Commando Unit, an organization composed entirely of youth from 16 to 20 years of age.

Acting under directions of the new army manual and carefully studying the tactics used by the British Commandos, the local group put all of their training to use. All the latest ideas of personal camouflage and surprise raid instructions were put into operation.

The raid took place in south-

(See YOUTHS, Page 2)

Corsage

This is a War Stamp Corsage made in Birmingham for sale by Birmingham merchants. These girls, under the leadership of Mrs. George D. Clark and Mrs. Robert J. Vinton of the A.W.V.S., made the victory flowers during the past week: Jean Gilbert, Jean Grindley, Polly Saunders, Gerry Strong, Barbara Brenkert, Carolyn Byers, Marilyn Harris, Juanita Pearson, Marjory Brenkert, Kitty Mills, Clover Babcock, Barbara Welch, Jane Roy, Ann Harrell, Ruth Harrell and Nancy Welch.

Cochran Tells of Airport Building For the U. S. in Wilds of Brazil

By JOHN H. HARWOOD

After 4½ months spent in and near the wilds of Brazil, constructing new bases for the expanding might of the U. S. Army Air Forces, M. W. Cochran, of 316 Puritan road, left Birmingham again this week for a new assignment, following a brief visit here.

Perhaps it will be Africa, India, or Madagascar—or maybe Hoboken, N. J., but wherever it is, the spot could be no more interesting nor troublesome than a location in Brazil, where Cochran, a construction engineer, labored with his man to bring ultra-modern order amidst jungle chaos.

Much of Work Secret

Working with Pan-American Airways on behalf of the U. S. Government, Cochran was unable to go into detail about his job when he talked Monday afternoon, just before taking a plane for Miami, where he will learn his next assignment.

"I can't tell you locations or figures, but I guess everybody in the civilized part of Brazil knows we have been constructing airplane bases," he declared.

"Did you run into any unusual problems?" he was asked.

"Well, it's not easy to put modern machinery to work when your laborers are used to our methods of 50 years ago," he replied. "I've even had dirt moved with donkeys and baskets. In the interior, the supply problem is a tough one for there are no roads—just the rivers. On one job we had to float our machinery upstream on barges, canoes and rafts—big things like rock crushers and pavers for use in laying concrete. Then we had to portage it over an island and back into another body of water before we got to the airport site. It was some job."

But Cochran related it in a matter-of-fact tone such as you or I might use describing how we managed to cut down the old pine tree in the back yard.

Snakes, Too

"What about snakes?" he was asked. "A story about adventure in the jungle always needs a few snakes in it to add color."

"Yes, we did run across some snakes," he answered. "One day the natives brought in a big anaconda that was 25 feet long. It

(See COCHRAN, Page 2)

Explain City Siren; Fires: 3 Swells; Raids: Continuous

If Birmingham's siren blasts confuse you, read this explanation just announced by City Manager D. E. Egbert, who is deputy civilian defense coordinator.

Also, note that lawn sprinkling should cease when the siren blows.

Egbert's statement follows:

"**Fire signal. The fire signal will consist of three 5-second blasts of the siren, with interval and additional sounding of the siren in series of three swells if required.**

"**Testing siren: The siren will be blown three swells each Monday noon for test purposes.**

"**Air raid signal. The air raid signal will be a continual blowing of the siren with rising and falling notes for a period of five minutes or longer. The regular air raid signal will be given for all practice, mobilization or practice blackout, and for actual air raid. All air raid precautions must be observed upon the blowing of the air raid signals, whether the signal indicates a practice or an actual air raid.**"

How can you tell the difference between a practice and the real thing? Turn on your radio. If there's a real raid, no Detroit station will be on the air; if it's just a practice, the usual broadcasting will continue.

Egbert's statement continues:

"In addition to the regulations contained herein, it will be necessary for each householder to discontinue the use of sprinklers upon the sound of the siren for air raid. No watering of lawns will be permitted during the time of air raids, as it is vitally necessary to conserve all water during this period."

Numbers Operator Arrested Again

Johnny Bland, 42 years old, of 238 Brandt street, Pontiac, again has been arrested in connection with the numbers racket. Three months ago he was warned by Associate Justice James W. Taylor to stay out of the business, and police have kept Bland's car-wash garage between Maple and Hamilton under surveillance, according to Police Sgt. Grant Springett said.

However, on complaint and evidence given by LaRue Poe, a house man working on Bradway boulevard, involving a 90-cent bet, Bland was secured on charges of violation of the State gambling law, a high misdemeanor which will bring him before the Circuit Court. Maximum penalty permitted is one year in jail and/ or $500 fine.

Bland demanded an examination which Justice Forbes S. Hascall set for Thursday at 2 p. m.

Water at 215 Feet Is Slightly Salty

Well-drillers went deeper than ever before in Birmingham when seeking a new site last week at the school board's acreage on the west side. The test went down 215 feet and into sand rock, and drillers estimated that a well might yield from 200 to 400 gallons a minute, which is not high. The new Southfield well gives 1,000 gallons a minute and has been pumped at 1,500 on test. An analysis showed the water to possess a slight salt content; its temperature was the coldest yet encountered—51 degrees.

The test drillers have halted work for another job, and meanwhile, the Water Department will prospect for more locations.

American Legion Collects Records

The American Legion post here is collecting old phonograph records, cooperating in a national collecting campaign to furnish records to USO headquarters. Material in the old records is salvaged and provides a small amount of money to be used in buying the new records. Records may be left at the American Legion Home, 266 South Woodward avenue, or phone 9052 and some one will call for them.

Victor and Bluebird Records. New releases weekly. Leonard Electric, 142 W. Maple. adv.—tf.

Gives Life

Second Lieut. JOSEPH H. McCULLOCH, former teacher at Bloomfield Hills, who was killed in an airplane mishap.

27 New Soldiers Leave Here Friday For Fort Custer

Birmingham will bid goodbye on Friday to its first contingent of men who are already sworn soldiers of the Army. They will leave for Fort Custer on the 2:12 p. m. train, making it the first midday farewell ceremony.

Twenty-seven men are listed in the group which two weeks ago passed its physical examination in Detroit and was then given the soldier's oath. The brief furlough followed immediately to permit the men to conclude civilian affairs.

The group will meet at 1:15 p. m. at the Municipal Building for a short talk by Mayor John E. Martz and for instructions by one of the draft board. John E. Church, one of the soldiers, has been named acting corporal in charge of the contingent.

Transportation to the railroad station will be handled by the Red

(See SOLDIERS, Page 8)

Road Oil 'Frozen' by Government; Projects Tied Up

Birmingham's streets may be hot in the summer sun but they are frozen as far as the Government is concerned. At least, road oil for new work, repairs and dustlaying is no longer to be bought, City Manager D. C. Egbert told the City Commission Monday night, on receipt of word from the State Highway Department.

Shortage of railway tank cars in which oil is shipped was given as the reason.

The order catches Birmingham with several street projects in the half-mooted stage, long hoped for from Dixie to Adams road, is almost through and will be complete this week. Other projects, which would have been completed now if property owners along the right-of-way had paid their assessments, leave the Commission in a quandry.

The City Charter permits no cancellation of projects once started. Assessments must be paid or they become a lien against the property, while those who already have paid find themselves unable to get their money back and unable to get their street project through unless the Government takes over all at some later date.

"Perhaps a charter amendment would be in order," Commissioner William Coit Allee suggested.

Projects which are on the books but never started are Lincoln avenue from Adams to Woodward; Webster, Dixie, Yankee and Columbia, Yosemite from Dixie to Columbia, Grant, Hazel, and Holland.

Vacations are Great But Not for Owners Of Borrowed Autos!

Two colored employees of Birmingham residents went vacationing this week. The cars in their employers' cars without their permission.

One of the cars, owned by W. A. P. John, 556 Tooting Lane, and equipped with a fine set of tires—to make it more tragic—is still unreported. The automobile was borrowed last Thursday by J. E. Columbus Carter, 42 years old, a

Mr. John also reported that a .22 caliber revolver was missing from his home.

The other machine was taken Sunday from the Frank Pierce home, 421 Arlington, by Wesley Ashford, 34 years old, of 329 Holbrook avenue, Detroit, who had been discharged a week previously. Ashford was arrested while cruising in Detroit with two companions who were released. He is charged with unlawfully driving away an automobile without intent to steal, a high misdemeanor, but less than a felony.

CAR STOLEN

Clare Scriven, manager of Dickinson's store, has asked police here to watch for his car stolen Tuesday from a public garage in Pontiac.

All of Birmingham Invited to Join In 'Sing' at Pierce Field Tonight

The "Victory Sing" sponsored by the Birmingham Recreation Commission will be held out-of-doors on Pierce Field tonight at 8 o'clock, the early hour being chosen in order to make full use of the long twilight. All of Birmingham is invited.

Conducted by Bill Spence, many old and new favorites will be sung to Don Terry's piano accompaniment, including "America," hostalgic numbers of World War I such as "There's a Long, Long Trail A-Winding," and brisk newcomers like "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree." Everyone present will be furnished with a sheet containing the words of all the program songs.

Harold Jones, trumpet soloist will play several selections. In addition, a prelude of semi-classical and popular recordings will be furnished by Ted Johnstone, who will also supply the necessary microphones and loud speakers. All arrangements for this event have been made by Arnold W. Berndt, director of the summer recreation program music project.

(See SING, Page 2)

Bill Spence

Former Hills Teacher Dies In Plane Crash

Lieut. J. McCulloch, Instructor in Science 4 Years, Loses Life

Second Lieut. Joseph H. McCulloch, Jr., 27 years old, well-known in Bloomfield Hills as a former high school teacher for four years, has lost his life in the service of the Country.

His parents, Prof. and Mrs. Joseph H. McCulloch, of Ypsilanti, last Wednesday received a message from the War Department which announced that their son had been killed in an airplane mishap July 13 in the Atlantic area. They had last heard from him when he was attached to a bombardment squadron at Zandderry, Dutch Guiana, in South America.

Characterized by W. A. Shunck, director of the Bloomfield Hills School as one of his ablest and best-liked teachers, Lieut. McCulloch ended his service here in June of 1941 after serving since September of 1937 as a science teacher. He enlisted in the Air Force in August and last March was graduated from the advanced flying school at Luke Field, Ariz.

His father has been a member of the physical education staff at Michigan State Normal College for many years. A younger brother is also in the Air Force.

Open Air Concerts Are Started Here

Blair McClosky, baritone, of New York City, is to be guest artist next Wednesday night, July 29, at the second concert in a series of six being offered by the Michigan Symphony Orchestra, of the Works Progress Administration, at the Greek Theatre, Cranbrook. There is no admission charge. The first concert was held last night.

Mr. McClosky and Walter Poole, director of the orchestra, were classmates 20 years ago in Boston. Well known for his work, McClosky has made over 20 appearances with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He has also appeared with the Minneapolis, Indianapolis, New York Philharmonic, and Buffalo orchestras and in stadium concerts. His specialty is Bach, and he has taken an active role in many Bach festivals. At present he is in Ann Arbor, instructing a master class in voice at the University of Michigan summer session.

First two selections on the pro-

(See CONCERTS, Page 2)

Need 250 Donors For Blood Bank

Two hundred and fifty donors of blood are needed in this area next Wednesday and Thursday when the Red Cross mobile blood bank unit will pay a return visit to Birmingham.

Dr. J. B. Hassberger, chairman, appealed for past donors and new ones to offer their aid in the project next week, which will be the largest yet attempted here. Registration may be made by phoning his office, or by phoning the Defense Service Center, 4014.

The bleeding will take place from noon until 6 p. m. at the Community House with Red Cross women assisting. Blood pressure tests are given each applicant before the blood is taken. It is shipped to Indianapolis where the plasma is extracted and stored to be used in the armed services to save life.

"Many people have not yet volunteered, particularly some of our business and professional people who, I am sure, could get away for an hour," Dr. Hassberger said.

NO SLUMP HERE!

If you are a faithful follower of the classified ad section you will notice that this summer, the volume is as great as ever.

It's the War!

People are on the move; they are buying and selling, renting and swapping. The Classifieds are truly a vital market place.

FOR BARGAINS, READ

The Classified Ads

Still at the same low price! Phone 11 before 4 p. m., Wednesdays.