

Editorial Page of The Birmingham Eccentric

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

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

OUR JUVENILE JUDGE REPORTS

People of Birmingham who pay little attention to Oakland County politics will be happy to know that the taxpayers here are being served by one of Michigan's outstanding juvenile judges:

Arthur E. Moore, of Royal Oak. Judge Moore's main job is that of administering the Probate Court, which has to do with the estates of deceased and incompetent persons, but an added duty, and one more important in my estimation, is that which covers the welfare of juveniles. A juvenile judge may make or break a youngster; he should know something of child psychology, and should take more than passing interest in repairing damage to children's personalities, rather than the mere meting out of punishment; but unfortunately, too many of our juvenile judges are men with a specialized knowledge of law and politics, which afford little background for constructive work with children.

349 Delinquents in Year
In his recent report to the Board of Supervisors (that's the body which makes and administers the affairs), Judge Moore revealed that an average of 150 children were daily under his jurisdiction; that there were 349 cases of delinquency during the past year, with many other cases handled informally.

Thirty-nine of the miscreants got into trouble by stealing automobiles, and in every case, the owner had left the key in the car, leading Judge Moore to remark: "In this connection I wish to make a plea to the public to remove the keys from their automobiles. This simple action will remove temptation and will help tremendously."

In summarizing the causes of juvenile delinquency, he wrote: "The majority of the blame for delinquency still lies with parents. It is a rare child who may grow up without being influenced by an immoral or immoral home. We are in need of a revamping of our freedoms through recognizing the true responsibility of parents. It must be remembered that the present sin is the worst crime is still poor parenthood."

His Recommendations
Judge Moore's recommendations for improved juvenile training include advice of forcing children to attend school through the age of 18, and to receive the same amount of juvenile training as is afforded to the adult.

"My recommendation for improved education should be had for all children of capable mentality through 18 years of age. Those who cannot benefit by academic work should receive technical business education together with moral training in matters of mental hygiene, education in group living and social conduct, sex education and perhaps most basic of all, sound education in the honest virtues of respect for law and authority, integrity, reliability, veracity, self-denial and perseverance, a better understanding of those matters will eliminate much of our crime bill."

"Moreover compulsory education has a practical value in that 90% of the delinquency commences through truancy or dropping out of school. Obviously if those children were continued in school, their presence in the wholesome environment of school would prevent a great share of current delinquency. Compulsory training of children is one of the best methods of guaranteeing freedom."

Financial Aid
"More financial aid should be afforded dependent children by supplementing the funds already granted through the Aid to Dependent Children (formerly called mothers' pensions). By this I mean there are still numerous cases where the A. D. C. allowance does not afford sufficient funds to adequately bring up children. In the long run the public will definitely lose by such inadequacy and will pay for it

Our Water Supply

Recent hot weather in Birmingham created tremendous use of water from our water supply system, one day 2,500,000 gallons being consumed. The reserve supplies in the two elevated tanks can be used to the rescue, however, and Birmingham fared better than most other North Detroit communities.

Which brings us back to a time some years ago when former City Manager James W. Parry endeavored to convince the Commission an elevated tank was not necessary to our water system. It was at the time that the State, to build the new Hunter Boulevard, took down the old tank and placed it on the far east side of the City. Mr. Parry believed that replacement of the tank was not necessary, while this newspaper argued that it was. For we had known earlier days in Birmingham when there wasn't enough water supply available to provide even a trickle for the old chemical fire truck—and we had witnessed the burning down of a house on Perry street because of it.

Yes, sir, Birmingham is lucky to have two elevated tanks to tide it over the hot dog days of summer.

Impotence
Seldom in the history of the United States has the Congress been in as impotent a position as it appears to be on these days. Scarcely a day passes but what one reads a story out of Washington which refers to "... Congress awaits word from the White House" on some specific move, whether it be freezing prices and wages, or showing respect to children, or a host of other phases of the national life.

In brief, Congress appears to the folks back home to be a greater "rubber stamp" than it was in the days of the early thirties.

Of course, some matters today, as they relate to the war, can be given leadership by the President; the country knows this, and expects Congress to follow the White House suggestions. But there are so many other domestic issues up for settlement today, issues of great importance to the people, that Congress ought to have some intelligent convictions about, that one wonders why Congress fails to respond to its Constitutional duties.

Perhaps the most logical single answer to the impotence of Congress may be found in the words: "Inaction." There is an election this fall, and Congress, intends to pussy-foot until after November on a number of tremendously important national issues; this so that a minimum of voters will be affected.

As a Constitutional device of government, Congress remains as we have known it for years; only the character and actions of a majority of its lesser politicians has changed for what seems to be a weaker worse.

When the entire situation gets intolerable, the people will become aroused and perhaps some of the job-shifting of government will be changed. It shall be that if the United States is to remain "the light of the world."

False Reports About Casualties

Residents of this community, who have relatives in the service, should thoroughly understand the policy of the War and Navy Departments in regard to casualties. The United States Government has promised that relatives of men in the service will be promptly notified if casualties occur. Every relative of a man in service can rest assured that just as soon as a casualty is definitely determined, the War or Navy Department will notify the next of kin.

In this connection, we urge all relatives of men in the service to pay absolute attention to round-about rumors. Nobly know how or where certain unofficial reports originate. Very often they concern a man in the service and the story is passed around that he has been wounded, captured or killed.

Whether these reports emanate from enemy origin or not, we do not know. That they may well serve an enemy purpose is apparent. Loyal Americans, whose loved ones are in service, should not be alarmed by any official report or word-of-mouth rumor as to the men in service.

The War and Navy Departments promptly report casualties. They report them to the relatives of the man in service. This report will come direct to those concerned. There is no possibility that others will have better news of your man than the services themselves.

Those with relatives in the service should always remember that "no news is good news," so far as casualties are concerned and that the only true news of casualties will come from the government.

Will we see that the nation has started a whit collection campaign, the essence of which is to get substance for nitroglycerine. Now don't accuse us of suggesting that the rendering of fatheads be started to augment the supply.

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What Code Means
The classification code is as follows: 1-A, passed local physical examination; 2-A, passed local physical examination in Detroit; 1-B, available for assignment; 2-B, necessary means in training in industry; 2-B, deferred dependent in vital work with dependents; 1-A, 4-B, taking advanced training; 1-B, 4-B, taking advanced training; 1-B, 4-B, student and advanced; 1-B, 4-B, student.

INDUCTION
Monday, a small group of men went to Detroit for their physical examination. The group included: Fredrick W. Hadden, transferred by Bd. No. 2, Adams; Dean G. Lovett, R. No. 2, Adams; Dean G. Lovett, R. No. 2, Adams; Fredrick W. Hadden, transferred by Bd. No. 2, Adams; Dean G. Lovett, R. No. 2, Adams; Fredrick W. Hadden, transferred by Bd. No. 2, Adams; Dean G. Lovett, R. No. 2, Adams.

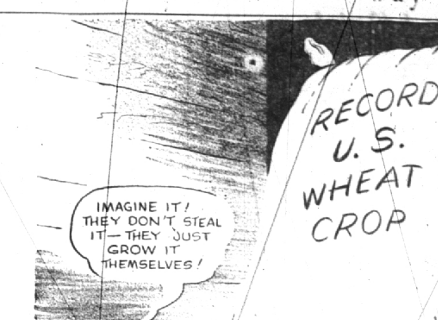
A FINE ARMY
It strikes the writer of this column that the Army is doing a fine job of training the new recruits. The Army and Navy together are doing a fine job of training the new recruits. The Army and Navy together are doing a fine job of training the new recruits.

PICTURE RECEIVED
The picture of four Birmingham boys who are called "barney" is a very kind one. The picture shows four boys, two of whom are called "barney" and two are called "dick". The picture is a very kind one.

LEAVE FOR CUSTER
A group of soldiers who left Birmingham by train last Friday are on their way to Custer, Montana. The group consists of several soldiers who are going to Custer, Montana.

NOW AN OFFICER
Frank L. Cavan, Jr., son of Mr. Cavan, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the Army. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the Army.

The American Way



IMAGINE IT! THEY DON'T STEAL IT—THEY JUST GROW IT THEMSELVES!

steening the fruit slightly, then heating it, you can draw out juice from the fruit itself, in many cases making unnecessary to can any added water.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner
CHAS. B. CHARMATZ, P. S. A., Editor

Summer vacation time is not a habit to travel light. When your vacation begins and the picture making starts, plan to take three things: First, count on good pictures of "my vacation."

The answer to that can be found in the "my vacation" picture making. What they stand for represents photographic insurance against disappointments or failure.

Preparation for picturing your vacation is just as important as your preparation for a canoe or pack trip into the deep woods. Begin by giving your camera a thorough cleaning. Polish the lens with a soft lintless cloth or lens tissue. Dust out the bellows and interior of the camera.

Finally make sure you're well stocked with film. Take at least a half dozen rolls with you. You may also want to carry some accessories such as a filter and tripod, but don't burden yourself with much more equipment. Make

Stretcher Sugar
Stretch your ration of canned sugar by the limit! The U. S. Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Home Economics, urges the National Home Economics Council to stretch your ration of canned sugar by the limit!

LESS JUICY FRUITS
Certain varieties of peaches and pears may not yield enough of their own juice to make the canning liquid. You'll get more juice from these fruits if you slice them and add a little sugar to the fruit. If you have prepared the fruit, you will not need so much sugar as you do when you juice the fruit. To complete the canning process the fruit in a water bath.

PACK FRUIT HOT
Cook the fruit first in an open kettle, then pack it into jars in its own juice. That way you'll need much less sugar than if you pack the fruit cold. Then cover it with a sugar-and-water syrup. By of fruit.

IN CALIFORNIA
Pvt. John E. Denny, who was graduated from Baldwin High in June of 1941, and attended the University of Michigan last year, is stationed at Camp Roberts, Calif. He is the son of Mrs. E. A. Chamaine, 212 Westwood Drive, is a new recruit at the station.

IN VIRGINIA
Pvt. James S. Smith is now with Co. B, 2nd Medical Training Battalion, 2nd platoon, Camp Pickett, Va.

Great Lakes Training Station
Inform us that Clayton B. Chamaine, 12, son of Mr. Chamaine, is a new recruit at the station.

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It says to make vacation snapshot close-ups, like this appealing picture of one happy "summer visitor."