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

WILL MASS BOMBING WIN THE WAR?

Britain's recent terrific pounding of German cities with mass bombing has led some to predict that bombing from the air will win the war. Perhaps it will; who knows?

We have nothing to go by except the experience of London, where the Germans failed to achieve anything decisive by constant aerial attack. On the other hand, we have the Britons' word for it that on one or two occasions, the fires almost got out of control—that had the raid been continued a little longer, the loss from fire would have been disastrous. Yet, these raids were only half as severe as the blasting the Nazis are receiving.

Limits of Endurance

The English stood it, to be sure, but who knows whether they could have withstood twice as much? There are limits to human endurance, as the fall of Corregidor, for example, showed. And what will happen when the U. S. Air Forces raise the bombing armada to 2,500 planes?

The devastation of Nazi factories will reduce the flow of munitions, and an army can't fight without supplies, guns and planes; and not only that, the effect on army personnel will not be good when they realize that their loved ones at home are being blasted from their hiding places, and that the vaunted might of the Luftwaffe is unable to stop it.

That, of course, is speculation, for while history yields examples of mass destruction of many sorts, its pages are not yet bloodied with mass death from the air.

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The End of the War

The war may not be over by fall, but we will know much more about its course. If the Germans smash into the Caucasus and get oil, and push the Russians back on their heels, it is obvious that the war will go on for a long time; but if the Germans fail to get oil and fail to smash the Red armies, the war may end sooner than we think. When the German high command sees that defeat is inevitable, I believe that they will force Hitler out and sue for peace just as they did in 1918.

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GASOLINE RATIONING

The uncertainty of it is all the more reason why we must conserve our rubber. People still don't seem to realize that the purpose of gas rationing in the Mid-west is not to save gasoline, of which there is plenty, but instead, to reduce tire mileage.

I think it is a good idea, for even if Germany falls, it may still be a year or two before the Japs can be run out of Malaya and the East Indies, and the rubber plantations put back into production.

The important thing about gasoline rationing is not to institute blind regulations which will dislocate our war production, but to set up ways of reducing auto speeds and to eliminate pleasure driving, and unnecessary commercial mileage.

The Governor, some weeks ago, asked that everybody but his speed to 45 mph, but as yet, no one seems to be paying much attention, and the young bucks still race around corners on two wheels.

Exchange Club Sees Movie on Rubber

John Gill, of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, showed motion pictures at the Exchange Club meeting Tuesday on the need for and methods of conservation of tires. He was introduced by Frank Sternal. Monday night, the club will hold a farewell party for a member, Dr. Thomas F. Watson, who begins Naval service June 22.

Dr. Edwin Deer, oral surgeon, reported a successful conclusion for the free dental clinic operated for school children by the club with the cooperation of dentists.

A watch weighing 4 pounds 5 ounces is on show at an eastern exhibition of antique timepieces. It dates from an earlier day when time hung heavily.—Detroit News.

Consumer News

Let's All Help!

Editor's Note: This column is sponsored by the Consumers' Center of Birmingham, a branch of civilian defense set up to discuss and clarify problems of the average citizen relating to buying of merchandise, food rationing, conservation of home furnishings, etc.

SUGAR

Sugar seems to be the topic of conversation on the home front these days.

Every housewife with a large and growing family (and most Birmingham families are) finds it hard on her small ration of sugar to keep the cookie jar full and a freshly frosted cake in the cake box.

Chocolate Sauce

Mrs. W. M. Brown, of Shirley drive, has solved one of the angles. She has a recipe for Chocolate Sauce that can be used for cake frosting and minute cocoa as well and it doesn't use a bit of sugar. It's simple to make, too. Melt 2 squares of unsweetened chocolate in the double boiler. Add 1½ c. (1 can) of sweetened condensed milk and stir over boiling water 5 minutes until the mixture thickens. Add ¼ t. salt and ½ to 1 c. hot water. If you want a thin sauce, you add the larger amount of water, and if it's to be one of those rich fudge frostings, the half cup is indicated. Chill and keep in the refrigerator. Dilute with hot milk to make cocoa.

Molasses Cookies

Excellent molasses cookies can be made without sugar, according to Mrs. Gerrien Ketchum, of Suffield road. Here's the recipe: 1 c. melted shortening, 1 c. dark molasses, 1 well beaten egg, 4½ c. sifted flour, 2 t. ginger, 2 t. cinnamon, ¼ t. cloves, 1 t. baking soda, 1 t. salt. Combine shortening and molasses, add egg; stir well. Stir in mixed and sifted dry ingredients. Chill dough. Roll ⅛ in. thick on floured board. Cut into 2 in. cookies; bake at 375 degrees about 12 minutes on greased cookie sheet. Makes over 100 cookies. "We like these molasses cookies better than the ones made with sugar," says Mrs. Ketchum.

Send Your Recipes

If you have recipes made with sugar substitutes, send them in to this column at The Eccentric office. Let's all help solve this wartime problem by sharing our ideas!

An excellent government booklet on sugarless cooking may be had by stopping in at the Consumer's Center, located on the west side of Woodward just north of Maple.

Don't forget this Saturday is the last day you can use your third sugar ration stamp!

Have You Met . . .

Mr. and Mrs. Karl E. Kaufman, originally from Saginaw, who moved here recently from Cleveland, Ohio? They have two sons, Karl, Jr., 15 and Allen, 13, both of whom are students at Adams. The Kaufmans decided on Birmingham as a place to live, because they liked this type of Community. Mr. Kaufman, who is a graduate of the University of Michigan, is head of the trade promotion department of the magazine, "This Week," with offices in Detroit.

The Alfred J. Knights who moved from Detroit to 292 Fairfax road? Mr. Knight is an automobile engineer with the Chrysler Corporation in Detroit. They decided to live here because they liked the community and also they will be near their two married daughters—Mrs. Edwin Mulock and Mrs. R. C. Restrick, both of whom are Birmingham residents.

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WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING

Keep Senator Brown

In general, the American voter takes very seriously the proposal that "politics as usual" be discontinued for the duration of the war.

With the safety of the nation at stake, our major problems revolve around issues having to do with the war. There is less difference of opinion about those than about purely domestic matters. The fights over many of these have been adjourned until a later date.

Meanwhile the problem of how best to fight the war faces every one of us. And with an election coming up soon, we must consider what changes, if any, to make among our officials.

It seems good sense to keep in office most of the national legislators who are now serving. Only those who have failed signally to appreciate this country's position, or to rally to the support of our national program after Pearl Harbor, should be dropped.

Especially do we need to retain in the United States Senate men like the two now representing Michigan—Prentiss M. Brown and Arthur Vandenberg. Senator Brown comes up for reelection this fall.

This newspaper is going to support Senator Brown; for the good of the nation, for the good of the state of Michigan and its people of all parties.

In the first place, Senator Brown is thoroughly behind the war effort. He understands what the Administration is trying to do and he is helping mightily in it.

Secondly, he is the best possible man to represent Michigan at this time. Because he is a member of the majority party, and because his seniority now gives him high ranking on several important committees, he is in a position to fight for the legitimate interests of the state of Michigan. And he does so. This is extremely important at a time when Michigan's part in the war effort is so great.

Thirdly, Senator Brown is the man for the job because he is able to see the whole picture. One reason why he has such a high standing in the Senate is that he has dared to oppose even President Roosevelt on some of the most extreme New Deal measures. He is one of four Senators given the credit for blocking the President's original Supreme Court plan.

Because the Administration is for an idea, it doesn't follow at all that Senator Brown is. He makes every proposal stand on its own feet. When it does, and he supports it, he understands what it is all about. He has been made the sponsor of some of the most important recent legislation.

Senator Brown was among the first to fight for a price control bill for the benefit of the great inarticulate portion of the American public, the consumer.

With Senator Vandenberg as a staunch representative of the Republican viewpoint, Senator Brown makes an ideal member of Michigan's two-man team in the Senate. We believe that at this time this combination should be retained in office as the most useful to the nation and to the state of Michigan.

$500,000,000 Saved

More than $500,000,000 have been saved for the Federal Government by the Congressional investigation into war-production costs and profits, according to Representative Vinson, chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee.

This is very interesting information which the people of the United States will appreciate. At the same time, the savings effected fully justify the continuance of an investigatory body for the purpose of seeking additional savings.

The re-negotiation of contracts when profits appeared to be getting out of bounds reflects credit upon the service, as well as the congressional committee. It reflects popular opinion which, while anxious to do everything necessary to win the war, is indisposed to permit the national emergency to be the means of creating another crop of war millionaires.

OPTIMISM, FOR THE MASSES, is native to the soil of democracy and self-government; pessimism, on the other hand, is native to the soil of governments presided over by tyrants and dictators. To the optimist, the sun is always shining somewhere, even though temporarily shielded from his view; to the pessimist, the shackles of his world make for almost perpetual nights of frustration, of personal imprisonment.

ISN'T IT TRUE that your average human being is so greatly moved by the law of self-preservation that he will welcome any safety device in time of personal danger? Which makes us wonder why the people of India, threatened as they are now by the Japanese invaders, won't ally themselves with the United Nations to beat the enemy. Do you suppose that decades of British rule there makes them willing to follow Gandhi, with his passive resistance policy?

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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 superficial changes in the words submitted as are necessary to the style of the paper and as are required by laws of the state. Because of 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.

Flag Day—1942

NEWS FROM THE MEN IN SERVICE

Classification June 3, 1942

Frank White, 1-A; George Edward Dorrell, Jr., 1-A; Wilbert Cranford, Jr., 1-A; Daniel Lloyd Jones, 1-B; William Frederick Lendzian, 1-C; William Carey Rogers, 1-C; Samuel Nino Bruni, 2-A; Edward Elliott Bissel, Jr., 2-A.

3-A

Homer John Murphy, Donald A. Mitchell, John Earl Wilson, Jr., William Reeves Smith, Donald Arthur Gould, William Bernhard Plate, Frederick Henry Kemp, Donald Sanderson, John Palmer Wood, Donald Edwin Terry, Paul James Turner, John Peter Fisenschenk, Charles Wallace Chamberlain, Charles Emery Condon, Frank Howard Edgerton, Hubert Vincent Davis, Leonard H. Orrville, James Leonard Cox, Fredree Yemans Henkel.

3-B

Ollie Virmillion Ellison, Carson Elwood Dalton, Oldrich Teofil Lhotan.

Classification June 6, 1942

Paul Wendall Laisure, 1-C; Russell Charles Weston, 1-C; Robert Orville Thompson, 1-C; John Stewart Gellatly, 2-A; Robert Newton Green, 2-B; William Frederick Smith, 2-B; William Norman Smith, 3-A; James Bernice Conwell, 3-A; John Ruffus Dodson, 3-A; William Butler Cole, 3-A; Frederick Otto Brotzke, 3-A; Winthrop Dyar Allen, 3-A; Ambrose Joseph Walsh, 3-B; Harry James McGowan, 3-B.

WHAT CODE MEANS

The classification code is as follows: 1-A, called for physical examination; 1-B, available for limited service; 1-C, already in service.

2-A, necessary men in training or in industry; 2-B, defense workers; 3-A, those with dependents; 3-B, men in vital work with dependents; 3-C, those who have completed service; 4-B, taking advanced military training in school; 4-C, aliens; 4-D, divinity students and clergymen; 4-F, unfit.

ENLISTMENTS

The Selective Service board here has been officially notified of these enlistments and commissions:

William C. Acton, 2283 North Main street, Troy Township, Air Force Engineers Reserve; Lieut. George T. Bogard, Jr., 3570 Woodale, U. S. Navy Reserve; Ross Pierce, Tiverton road, Naval Aviation; Russell Charles Weston, 648 Cherry Court, Army; Robert A. Merz, 57 Berkshire drive, Air Force engineers; John Reed Buchman, 444 Berwyn road, Naval Aviation cadet; Orien Lee Cox, 16 Elm, Dexter, Mo., (formerly 631 Pierce) Navy; Paul Wendall Laisure, 4748 Rochester street, Army; Olin Duane Cooper, 3347 Kilmer street, Marine Corps; William Carey Rogers, Army Cavalry.

COLLEGE OFFICER TRAINING

Michigan's male students in high schools and colleges can remain in study through the completion of a full college course despite draft status if they wish to enroll with the Army or Navy as enlisted reserves with actual armed forces training delayed until after completion of college work.

That is the announcement made by the United States War Department to John A. Hannah, president of Michigan State College. The college has been designated a focal point for reserve enlistment for the central area and western half of Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

Purpose of the reserve enlistment is to insure for the army a future source of qualified officer candidates from college graduates. To this extent, the plan encourages qualified students to enroll and continue in college.

Inquiries for details of the reserve enlistment should be addressed to Lt. Col. Stuart McLeod, Department of Military Science and Tactics, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

TAKE IT ALONG

Parents outfitting their sons for induction in the Army will do well to include a roll of adhesive tape. At the first sign of a foot blister, a piece of tape will ease the trouble, and help the lad through the trying time when his feet are getting used to marching in G. I. shoes.

IN NEVADA

LAS VEGAS, Nev.—Pvt. John S. Saunders of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., is now taking the course at the Air Force gunnery school here. He is the son of Mrs. Ruth S. Saunders. Pvt. Saunders is a graduate of Bloomfield Hills School and a former student of the Highland Park Junior college. Prior to enlistment in the United States army Jan. 1, 1942, at Detroit, Pvt. Saunders was a draftsman.

IN FIRST CLASS

Two youths from Bloomfield Hills, Mich., have reported for duty as cadets at the U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School at Iowa City, Iowa, for the first phase of their 12-month Naval aviation training course.

They are Robert Craig, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman J. Craig, and Hugh Morgan, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Morgan.

The Iowa base is designated to prepare aviation cadets physically and mentally for their rigorous flying duties—in the first of its kind in military history. The class of 242 cadets with whom Craig and Morgan arrived was the first to report to the new school.

Here the cadets will undergo three months of strenuous scientific physical conditioning that is designed to make U. S. Navy fliers the most physically perfect group of fighters in the world. They also will learn the fundamentals of navigation, military formations and drill, and Naval lore.

ONE NOTCH HIGHER

Pvt. Edward Kvet, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Kvet, 208 Larchlea drive, has been promoted to private first class (Pfc) his parents learned this week. Formerly a chemical engineering student at U. of D., Pfc. Kvet enlisted in the Army April 2, 1942, and is now at Patterson Field, near Dayton, Ohio.

FORT WOOD NEWS

A paragraph in the Fort Leonard Wood News relates this: "Nineteen members have enrolled in the 177th Field Artillery Glee Club directed by Cpl. Stanley Rosso, former Birmingham, Mich., organist and choir leader. The organization will appear on the regiment's weekly band show and at recreation halls and service clubs in other parts of the post."

STARS IN BASEBALL

Midshipman R. K. (Ted) Snyder, former star catcher for Ball win High, continued his work behind the plate at Annapolis and recently was awarded a varsity "N." He has been at Annapolis two years, has one more to go.

GETTING AHEAD

Aviation Cadet Howard Miller, who left Birmingham in February, is now attached to a technical school squadron at Sheppard Field, Texas, and will finish work there in July, then going to Randolph Field, Texas, for flight training. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Irving Miller, of Evergreen road.

SEND US THE NEWS

PARENTS, FRIENDS: Let us know about your Men in Service—Phone 11 and ask for the editor. This is one of The Eccentric's most popular columns.

ARRIVES

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Gardner have been notified that their son, Pfc. Herbert H. Gardner, has arrived safely at an undisclosed Pacific port. They had not heard from him for two months.

COMMISSIONED

F. C. McCarthy, of Vinewood avenue, went into the Army Air Force three weeks ago. He received his commission as captain and is now stationed in Washington, D. C., where he will engage in administrative work.

LIKES PURSUIT AVIATION

Kirk Martin, son of Mr and Mrs. John E. Martin, Oakland Avenue, was one of a group of 15 young men completing their pilot training course early this month at Randolph Field, Texas. Making a request for a pursuit squadron assignment, Kirk has been sent to pursuit training school at Foster Field, Victoria, Texas, where he will spend eight weeks in specialized training and target practice.

FAMILY IN FIVE WARS

With the drafting of Fred E. Fisher, Jr., son of Fred E. Fisher, Sr., of 268 Harmon avenue, the number of wars in which a Fisher has participated reached number five. All of the Fisher boys have been fighting for the United States.

In the Revolutionary War, a Fisher fought, first name unknown. Captain William Fisher, son of W. Fisher, of Detroit, battled for the cause of the Yankees in the Civil War. In the Spanish-American War another Fisher boy from Detroit, first name cannot be recalled, fought on the side of the Americans.

Russell and Albert, both Birmingham men, enlisted with Allies in World War No. 1.

Six weeks ago Fred E. Fisher, Jr., upheld the "fightingest Fisher family's" traditions when he became a private in the U. S. Army. He is now stationed at Panama City, Fla., and like all inductees he likes military life.

(Continued on Page 5)

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

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

WHAT CAN WE PHOTOGRAPH?

Heard a lively discussion at one of the camera club meetings not so long ago. It seems that a few of the boys and girls had decided to put camera and equipment on the shelf for "the duration." The attitude taken by this group was due to war-time picture-taking restrictions there just wasn't anything left to photograph. One of the boys was quite incensed on account of having had to spend a few hours in the "hoosegow" because he was caught too near the water front with his Speed Graphic pointing in the general direction of the Belle Isle Bridge and the Canadian shore line.

True enough, amateur photographers do have to watch their step these days. Don't try to take pictures of the smokestacks of factories or power houses. Don't try to photograph city skylines, or public buildings, etc., etc. But, just on account of these restrictions is no reason why your camera cannot continue to be the source of fun and pleasure it always was. To our way of thinking, a hobby such as photography—especially for the more serious minded amateur—can fill the need for healthy relaxation, perhaps more so in these times of strife and stress—than in ordinary times.

So your "Corner" wants to pass on some ideas—just a few—that we hope will serve an inspiration to many who sincerely want to continue to take and make photographs.

At this time of year we can think of many fitting subjects to photograph without risking Uncle Sam's displeasure. A friend of ours—just for example—planted a victory garden—and simultaneously started to keep a photographic diary of the garden's progress. We have seen some of the early results of this Victory Garden diary series—and believe us when we tell you that they are most interesting and in many instances, quite humorous. And out of about three dozen exposures just this one subject—we could select two or three that had definite pictorial merit and pictorial quality. Not a bad batting average.

Other subjects that come to mind, are the picturing of pets. Your Editor has had an ambition to picture all the pets in the neighborhood. You know the dogs, puppies, kittens and cats owned by all the kids in our block. Seems to me by the time one got through with a series of this kind one would have an interesting series for a splendid photographic presentation.

Other Ideas

And many other photographic ideas come to mind. "Picturing the Farm" seems to be an almost inexhaustible subject. Keep your eyes open and you'll find action, still-life, animal, story telling and human interest pictures in abundance everywhere. Men and women work in the country. Look for interesting angles—and don't miss some of the landscape possibilities.

Then we have flower photography, 200 photographs and so on ad infinitum—without ever once risking an encounter with the F.B.I. In photographing flowers, don't forget to use filters to darken skies and face up contrasts. Also, watch the light. The most favorable time for photographing flowers is early morning or late afternoon. This will give you nice sidelighting which will add depth and form to your subject. And don't hesitate to use a reflector, such as a white piece of cardboard, to brighten the shadow portions of your subject.

And in flower photography try to isolate your subject. The most perfect background for almost any flower is the sky, but a big sheet of gray cardboard held behind the blossom will make a fine substitute. If you can't get a low enough angle to use sky for your backdrop the "Corner" will be pleased to hear from other photographers concerning other subject matter to picture in these times.

PROTECT WORKMEN

The City Commission Monday night awarded a contract by the Michigan Mutual Liability Co. to furnish workmen's compensation insurance for the next year, costing $3,000. Several commissioners declared that because the city's loss-experience has been negligible, it may be wise at some time in the future to build up a fund providing self-insurance.

Bits of Birmingham

(Continued from Page 1, Part 2)

G. M. Emery, a reader, sends us a clipping from the Christian Science Monitor—an article by Roger Babson in which Mr. Babson urges that local expenses be cut to the bone, because local revenues are to diminish with fewer automobiles on the road and no home building.

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Our police find themselves badly handicapped without radio service. Some one fell down badly in not seeing that the City's new broadcasting station was completed by June 1, when the Royal Oak contract expired.

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Several weeks ago this column pointed out that the City Commission had wrongly issued a $25 initial merchant license to a message studio operator because she was not a merchant as defined by the ordinance; that is, she stocked no goods or merchandise. City Manager Egbert was ordered to study the books and Monday night he recommended refunds to Mrs. Marie Green, to Brown Cleaners, to Vogue Cleaners, Ridley Cleaners ($2) and Grand Laundry ($2). The $2 fee for a mere change of address. The money will be refunded.

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Ralph A. Wilson last Thursday was elected executive committee of the State Pharmaceutical association in its convention held at Flint.

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Nancy Fletcher, 652 Bloomfield Court, recently passed tests which qualify her as a Red Cross instructor in lifesaving.

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Elaine and Patricia Newhall's Pretty Perfect, recently purchased from Jimmy Casson, must be really pretty perfect. In the Lansing horse show two weeks ago, she took first in both the model and 15-hands classes. In the Jackson show last weekend, she won the blue ribbons in the model and under 15.2 classes, was second in the combination saddle and harness class, and was reserve champion of the show. The girls are looking forward to the Detroit Horse Show competition this weekend.

Have You Met . . .

Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Schwenk who moved here from Glencoe, Ill., and are living at 540 Hawthorne road. With their two children, Alice, 10, and Walter, 7, they decided to live in Birmingham, because they have many friends who have lived here in the past and who are living in Birmingham now. Mr. Schwenk is an industrial engineer working with the Bedaux Engineering Company of Chicago. He was graduated from Wesleyan College in Middleton, Conn., where he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon, and from Harvard graduate school of business administration. Mrs. Schwenk is a graduate of Connecticut College for Women and attended the University of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. John Chapman, Jr., and their three children who are living at 1720 Dorchester road? They came out here recently from Detroit because they liked the surroundings and thought this would be a nice place to live. All three of the children attend Adams School. Gwendolyn, 14, is in 9 B, Millicent, 11, is in 6B, and Payson, 5, attends kindergarten. Mr. Chapman, who attended the University of Michigan and the University of Detroit, is assistant secretary-treasurer of the National Automotive Fiber Company.