If it be the lot of masses of human beings to fall victims to the world's most stupid melodrama, WAR, then it ought to be the divine lot of the comparatively few intelligent leaders of these masses to lead them, to more enduring intervals of peace; if leaders were not so selfish they COULD plan for peace.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 13 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1942 | $1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

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BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASS'N

Open Air Opera Next Tuesday Eve At Greek Theatre

One night of opera will be presented to music lovers by the Pontiac Philharmonic orchestra and the Michigan Opera company in a special summer program to be presented in the Cranbrook Greek theatre Tuesday evening, June 30 at 8:30 p. m. D. Cesar Chanfone will conduct.

Selections from four separate operas will be included in the program, the first part of which will be entirely instrumental, played by the Philharmonic. The second half will be vocal highlights presented in costume by 50 members of the Michigan Opera company.

In response to numerous requests, three of the most popular arias from Mascagni's "La Cavalleria Rusticana" will be sung. The opera company staged this Sicilian opera in Pontiac during May as a benefit for the Philharmonic. Five operatic stars who sang the leading roles, will again appear at the concert June 30. They are Florence Wenzel, Riccardo Vivaldi, Doris Bull, Gertrude Shore and Allan Summit.

Miss Wenzel, soprano, and Mr. Vivaldi, tenor, will sing the "Bada Santuzza," the lovers quarrel duet. Miss Bull will appear with Miss Wenzel singing the "Regina Coeli" from the church scene and the entire chorus of 50 voices will join in the "Orange Blossom Chorus."

Five well known selections from the opera "Carmen" will be played. These are the "Abanera Song;" the "Gypsi Song," the "Flower Song," "Fraschita Song" and the "Toreador Song."

The overture to Rossini's comic opera, "The Barber of Seville" will be the opening number by the Philharmonic. The orchestra also will present five selections from Verdi's "La Traviata." These will be the instrumental arrangements of the "Prelude to Act I," the "Drinking Song," the soprano aria "Ah Forse Lui," the "Gypsi Song" and the duet "Parigi O Cora."

Director Chanfone believes the program will be most effective in the classic outdoor setting of the Greek theatre of the Cranbrook school on the Lone Pine road. He adds, however, that should inclement weather occur on June 30, the program will be presented the following evening. Tickets may be purchased at the gate.

Patty Price Heads Girls' State Rally

Patricia Price, 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Wales Price, 655 Oakland avenue, was elected president of the Wolverine Girls' State, holding its second annual meeting at Ann Arbor under the direction of the American Legion Auxiliary, with the assistance of the University. More than 200 girls are attending.

Training in citizenship and home economics form the main theme of the Girls' State program, which is aimed at developing qualities of leadership. The girls are staying at Mosher Hall, one of the University's residences for women. Girls' State, which lasts one week, will end on Thursday, June 25.

Members of the University staff are aiding the officers of the American Legion Auxiliary to conduct the Girls' State. Several women students of the University are acting as counselors.

Patty Price is in the 11-A at Baldwin High and excels at tennis.

The Birmingham unit of the American Legion Auxiliary sponsored Patty at the conference.

Want Boy Scouts To Pick Cherries

Boy Scout and Girl Scout leaders throughout Michigan today were urged to plan extended outings for their troops in the Traverse City area to assist in harvesting the 1942 cherry crop.

George W. Cross, Director for Michigan of the United States Employment Service, announced that approximately 16,000 cherry pickers will be needed between July 5 and August 10. At least one half of this number will have to come from outside the immediate area.

CLAWSON MAYOR ENLISTS

Andrew Cadger, 35, mayor of Clawson the past two years, has enlisted in the Army Air Forces and has been sent to Patterson Field. He is unmarried.

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Bits of Birmingham

A two-foot bronze figure, "Folke Filbyter on a Horse," done by the noted sculptor, Carl Milles, many of whose works distinguish the Cranbrook grounds, was stolen last Thursday night from its stone pedestal near the new museum. It was valued at $1,800 and was worked loose from its moorings. Police wonder whether it was a prank, whether some art crank took it, or whether some one wanted to salvage the bronze of which it was made.

P. S.—The statue has been recovered. At 11:28 p. m. Monday, a man phoned Birmingham police and informed them that the statue could be found on the grass in front of the Municipal Building, and there it was! The call could not be traced.

—o—

One of our readers asks why service men must pay for their golf at Springdale Park when home on furlough. It's a good question so we asked Don Egbert, City Manager, about it. Said he: "The Commission has considered it, but never has taken any action."

So, if the Mothers of Men in Service or some other group brought forth a petition, no doubt the Commission would consider the matter.

—o—

A patent has been issued to Earl A. Thompson for gear changing device with automatic overdrive. Thompson is a research engineer for General Motors and lives on Dunston road.

—o—

Sunday evening police received a complaint of gunfire at Cranbrook road and Lincoln. It was not an attack by parachutists, rather a father teaching his son how to shoot a gun.

—o—

Richard Shirley, of 504 West Brown, was given a ticket several days ago for driving with faulty brakes and steering.

—o—

In a nearby town, a single man married a widow with four children and asked to be reclassified out of 1-A. "Nothing doing," the draft board said. "Anybody brave enough to do that is the kind needed in the Army."

—o—

Two boys narrowly escaped serious injury last week. Saturday, Bill Dutton, 12 years old, of 1243 Ruffner, was crossing Maple near Hunter boulevard when he was hit by a car driven by Mrs. Catherine M. Straus, 3341 Adams road. Mrs. Straus reported that the boy was able to walk home—that he was not hurt.

Sunday evening, Gilbert Gove, 10 years old, of 228 West Brown, was riding his bicycle on Henrietta street, when he ran into the front of a car driven by Irvin Clark, 1272 Cole. The boy was uninjured; a fog light and fender light on the car were broken.

—o—

Business is terrible in the office of our full-time justice of the peace, especially now that there are fewer cars on the road and few traffic cases. Days go by without a trial. Some people wonder whether it wouldn't be wise to amend the charter when Mr. Hascall's term expires, making the job part-time on a fee basis, like that of H. A. O'Dell at Bloomfield Hills, where more cases are being handled today than in Birmingham. In the charter-making days, the office here was put on a salary basis with the idea of avoiding the justice fee racket whereby officers and justices cooperate together to bring in every violator they can find. However, that condition prevails only in some rural areas, where the constable is independent. In cities, arrests are made by police who are responsible to the commission or council, and thus there is not likely to be a racket. Judge O'Dell handles his cases in the morning before going in to Detroit, or in the evening. He is an architect.

—o—

A Detroit woman phoned police at 5 p. m. Saturday and said: "My husband is driving his car on Woodward out toward Birmingham, and he's very drunk." Perhaps Royal Oak nabbed him, for officers here saw no zig-zagging motorist trying to avoid a police torpedo.

—o—

Lloyd Jackson, 727 South Center street, Royal Oak, says he was riding to Pontiac on the train at 2:12 p. m. Saturday, when at the Adams road intersection, he noticed boys shooting at the train with BB guns.

—o—

Jay Swan, of 227 State street, Pontiac, formerly a delivery boy for Matthew Cammareri, was arrested last Thursday and charged with embezzlement of $17.35 owed to his employer. He pleaded guilty when brought before Justice Forbes S. Hascall and promised to pay back the money. His sentence of 90 days in jail was suspended.

—o—

Patrolman Larry Kamin found a pocketbook the other day containing $7. It belonged to Ethel Boyd Moore, New Rochelle, N. Y.

—o—

The Clyde Bennett, Jr.-Betty Hamill wedding last week was quite an exciting affair for all concerned. They had a tough time trying to get into the church, because of a parade. The bride had little difficulty because of her garments, but the guests—they had a struggle trying to get through the crowds. They had to park their cars and hustle on foot.

—o—

Folks over at Franklin are following the Frances Drag murder case. Miss Drag, 31, employe of James H. Morgan, a Highland Park dry cleaner, died May 30 of a head injury and police say she was murdered, accusing Morgan. On the night before her death, Morgan admitted riding with Miss Drag and parking for a time near Franklin.

—o—

The cruiser of Raymond L. Pointer, 120 Suffield, was docked at Sans Souci, near Tashmoo Park, Harsen's Island, last Wednesday night when it blew up, probably the result of seepage of gasoline into the bilge. Pointer was not injured but five other passengers, three women and two men, were injured and treated at the hospital.

—o—

Sam Bruni, Tom Reinhold, Bill Sherman, Dill Dayner, and John Fisher, whom you will recognize as a group of local grocers, attended a meeting in Pontiac last week called by the Michigan Retail Grocers and Meat Dealers' Association. Plans are under way, it was said, to organize all the grocers and their employees in a union, and the boys are pretty much upset about it. Even a man who owns a store and runs it without clerks will be asked to join, it was said, and the local group can't understand it. This Wanderer can't either. First time we ever heard of the boss being asked to join the workingman's union.

—o—

Jim Kelly is not a singing troubadour anymore. Thieves entered his office Wednesday night and took his $200 accordion. The same evening, Tom Cobb's office was entered and $11.15 taken.

—o—

A national golf event, the Ryder Cup matches, will be held at Oakland Hills July 13 and 14. Walter Hagen, captain of the challengers, has asked Bobby Jones to play, and the latest dope is that Bobby will be here.

—o—

Leo Stiers and Birmingham's Variety Four quartette went to the national convention at Grand Rapids last week.

—o—

Chief Air Raid Warden Russ Fisher says: "It is recommended that home owners who are leaving the City on business or vacation trips contact their air raid warden and inform him of it, so that in case of an emergency, proper attention can be given to this home."

—o—

L. D. Atherton, 444 Baldwin avenue, wrote the President last week and suggested that to stimulate the rubber campaign, every phone subscriber be called and that Boy Scouts aid. Reader Atherton is right. In Birmingham, the folks are being called, and the Boy Scouts are taking part.

—o—

A reader phones to make this plea: "The men in my family and in others are now working night shifts for the first time and are not used to sleeping in the daytime. Barking dogs make it harder, so I think it would be swell if every dog owner would cooperate and keep his dog quiet as much as possible. A dog near us barked for two days and my husband slept very little."

—o—

Genevieve Minton, formerly in charge of the fountain at Cunningham's, was riding tandem on a motorcycle the other day and crashed. She was badly hurt, her legs broken.

—o—

Last week in this column, one A. L. S. took a verbal crack at the Cat Bureau, that unique organization which this column occasionally gives space to. So Justin Buckridge, Jr., executive secretary of the Bureau, comes back with this letter, addressed to A. L. S.:

"The charges in your letter against the Cat Bureau demand an answer although it is not my usual policy to answer when the writer omits his name or perhaps uses fake initials for the signature.

"Your first charge, 'This hobby (the Cat Bureau) is indeed a worthy one' . . . should be encouraged,' I agree with. Any encouragement anyone has to offer the Cat Bureau will be appreciated. You go on to say, 'however, not within the city limits, or at least a residential section.'

Budget Limited

"My ambition, A. L. S., is to have a farm in the country for the Cat Bureau and I will be glad to move out there if you will raise $15,000 or $20,000 to buy and support such a place. However, while I wait for you to get the money the Cat Bureau will have to make out on the budget of

(Continued on Page 6)

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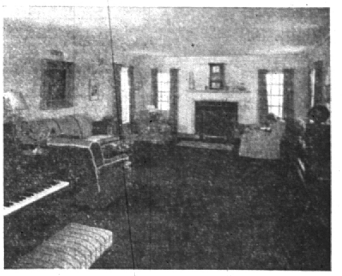

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