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

THIS MATTER OF CRITICISM

One day last week, a Congressman issued a statement to the effect that there had been too much fault-finding, too much criticism, and it was apparent that he was piqued at having received a flood of letters from home, demanding that Congress "do something" about the many things which need doing. Even Mr. Roosevelt commented the other day about two many armchair generals running the war.

What about this matter of criticism? How much is warranted and how much is not? Does criticism lead to disunity?

I think there is a principle which can be formulated on the subject, namely, that it is not for you and me to tell the Government how to conduct the details of its military operations, although in the grand strategy, the people have a right to be heard. For example, I think the English people have been justified in clamoring for more aid and cooperation with Russia, in light of the fact that British Tories have bungled time and again in their failure to join forces with the Soviet. On the other hand, what laymen can presume to tell the Government whether to send aid to the Philippines, or how soon the counter-attack should be launched by General MacArthur?

That is beyond our sphere, but this matter of production and other domestic affairs are not; and here, the people should make themselves heard. As the Detroit News has pointed out, the people are away ahead of Congress in these domestic matters. Yes, and ahead of the President, too.

The people want action. They want Washington to get rid of and crack down on the chiselers who are still thinking of themselves before their country. That includes politicians who can hear only the cries of special interest; also, certain dollar-a-year men who are restricting production because they are afraid of post-war competition to their own private businesses; also, the labor racketeers who are restricting production in several ways; also, the farm bloc which can't remember the agricultural inflation of the last war; also, the Army and Navy brasshats who cannot see beyond a ball of red tape; and also, those who think profiteering in these times is legitimate.

The people want more done than Washington officialdom, and others in control are doing. They are squawking. That may sound like disunity, but how else are we going to stir our officials to action?

Stop the criticism and you stop the correction. Remember, it was 18 months before Mr. Roosevelt put one man at the head of war production.

America is doing a better job because of criticism, because public opinion and pressure are the only control we have over public officials whose ears are tuned to the special pleaders. Remember, we are trying to do overnight what the Japs and Germans have been planning for years.

Criticism can be effective as a counter-criticism. By that, I mean that sensible people can shush the dumb-bells who think, for example, that this rubber shortage is the bunk, and we can deride those who spread silly rumors. In other words, the informed critics must overbalance those who are patently misinformed.

Heat Ruins Wire Fence

Another score against widespread burning of fence rows has been found by agricultural engineers. Damage to wooden posts was obvious and now the engineers report that heat ruins the temper of wire fencing and the wire becomes soft and easily broken. During the war emergency, purchase of new wire fencing has become difficult. Soils and crops authorities previously scored the burning process as a cleanup method that often did more harm than good. Conservation specialists have been pleading against the practice which destroys wild life cover and nesting facilities.

Scouters to Meet

All Birmingham Scouters are urged to attend the first meeting of District 1 which will be held this evening at the Royal Oak Civic Auditorium, located just above the 12-Mile Road on the east side of Woodward. This newly-organized district is composed of the following communities: Berkley, Big Beaver, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Clawson, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Townsite, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak, and Southfield Center. It promises to be a grand evening, and will give the local Scouters a chance to become acquainted with their neighbors in this gerat Scout movement.

Taking Inventory

An inventory is being taken of the equipment which the various Troops in Birmingham possess. The purpose is to find out just what materials are available which can be used in the Civilian Defense program. The equipment reported to date by Troops B-1, B-3, and B-4 is composed of First Aid kits, ropes, ladders, tents, bicycles, devices for signalling, mess kits and cooking equipment, bugles, flint-and-steel sets, and fire by friction equipment.

Also, a list of active Scouts is being prepared so that they can be called on when necessary.

In addition, 19 boys, 15 years of age, or over, who have reached the rank of first class are taking a course which will enable them to be of real service in our emergency defense program. — DON McLEESE.

Have You Met . . .

Mr. and Mrs. John Dinan who are living in their newly-completed regency home on Guilford road in Bloomfield Hills? They've been wanting to move out here from Detroit for the past six or seven years, but just got around to it. The Dinans have two young sons, Dennis, 3, and John, 8, who attends the Vaughan School. Mrs. Dinan is a Marygrove graduate and Mr. Dinan, who is a broker for Goodbody and Company in Detroit, graduated from the University of Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Frieling, who moved here from Grand Rapids recently? The Frielings, who are living at 271 Euclid avenue, will have been married a year next month. Mr. Frieling is an engineer with the Albert Kahn Company in Detroit and decided to make his home out here because of friends and relatives living in Birmingham. Both Mr. and Mrs. Frieling attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids after which Mrs. Frieling was graduated from the school of nursing at Blodgett Hospital and Mr. Frieling attended Purdue University.

Mr. and Mrs. William Barr who wanted to move farther out of the city so decided recently to move to Birmingham? They are living at 922 Henrietta street. Mr. Barr does engineering research for the Detroit Transmission Company. The Barrs have been married for a little over a year. He is a Princeton graduate and she attended Denison University where she was affiliated with Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

"A friendly bank"

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

Our City Candidates

Five candidates seek election to three vacancies on the Birmingham City Commission when local voters ballot at the annual election here Monday, April 6. They are Wilmer E. Moody, Ray A. Palmer, present incumbents; Kennett B. Olson, Howard R. Estes, and Fred T. Reed.

In a community like Birmingham, it is presumed that "big city politics" has no place in our elections; indeed, those who offer their services do so more in the spirit of good neighborliness, for the job pays little, and takes much time. This newspaper, too, has no personal "favorites," but we do feel an obligation to speak objectively on the subject.

Therefore: Mr. Moody has served on the Commission for a number of years, and is familiar with the City's problems; he is an aggressive chap, and his record of devotion to various community projects, especially his fine work for recreational activities, suggests that his re-election will be an asset to Birmingham.

Ray A. Palmer, a former member of the local School Board, is a nice gentleman, not too aggressive, according to his record. If he has a deep conviction that these times require maximum governmental efficiency and economy, he hasn't consistently revealed them in his official activities. Personally, we like him, for he is honest and sincere—but does lack aggressive action.

Mr. Olson has lived in Birmingham for many years, and has participated in numerous crusades for more efficiency and economy in the City's affairs; he is very aggressive and forthright in his expressions—and one doesn't have to talk many minutes with him to discover just where he stands on any given issue. We think that he will make a good addition to the Commission for he certainly will be wide-awake and alert to current needs in local government.

Mr. Estes is a local business man with considerable background of experience in public affairs, as an appointive official; these activities took place in Flint, in local affairs, and as an employee of the State. His announcement in this newspaper two weeks ago contained vigorous promises of economy and efficiency—and these two related policies assuredly are worth adopting in these days of heavy defense taxation.

Mr. Reed owns and operates a barber shop in the southern area of Birmingham, and has been an unsuccessful candidate before for City Commissioner. So far, we have not been able to obtain from him a statement of his policies.

Next week we shall publish statements from each candidate, we hope; so we suggest that you study them and thus be prepared for an intelligent casting of your ballots April 6.

CIVILIAN DEFENSE authorities suggest that every American home subject to enemy bombings have its attic cleaned. (Now, remember, Dear Wife, it was the O.C.D. who suggested this!)

WAR OR NO WAR, to those romantically inclined Congress will never be able to ration the number of times a fellah can call a gal—or vice versa—the endearing name of

Support Our Band!

One segment of the educational program in Birmingham that reaches, regularly, the entire community, is the Baldwin high school band. This organization of boys and girls, ably directed by Arnold Berndt, has rendered many services to many groups in our community—and your appreciation of their efforts can be shown by attendance at their annual concert in the high school next Tuesday night, March 31, at eight o'clock.

Birmingham prides itself upon being a typical American community; such a community, among other assets, possesses its band—and Birmingham can be proud of its student musical organization.

So, Folks, why not show your support of the band by buying tickets, (only 27 cents each), for the excellent concert they will give you next week? You may get them from the students, or at the door of the high school.

C'm on, you boosters of the Maroon and White! Show your colors on this annual occasion.

CHAMPAGNE AND WINE became too expensive, and now they propose to smash milk bottles against the bows of newly launched ships in this country. As an old sailor man ourself, we suggest that all this tom-foolery be done away with and a tin dipper be used to splash plain fresh or salt water (depending upon where the launching is held) against the same bunch of bows. After all, we are at war, and let's conserve even milk and glass containers; and a self-respecting ship's bow really wants a taste of the element it will have to float in, anyway!

IT IS HEARTENING to learn that General MacArthur has been made Supreme Commander and is in Australia to lead the Allied Nations to victory. But he, alone, can't bring victory without the tools of war: that's where American industry joins up with the men at the firing line!

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in The Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue

Telephones 11, 12 and 13.

GEORGE R. AVERILL	Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL	Business Manager
JOHN H. HARWOOD	Managing Editor
HAROLD P. BUERGE	Advertising Manager
CLAUDE E. WALKER	Production Manager

Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Post Office at Birmingham, Michigan

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(In Oakland County)		(Outside Oakland County)	
One Year	$1.50	One Year	$2.00
Six Months	.85	Six Months	1.25
Three Months	.50	Three Months	.75

All newspaper and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric office by Wednesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.

The Eccentric is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, University Press Club, and Oakland County Weekly Press Association.

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 work 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.

APPLICATION FOR A VICTORY GARDEN PLOT

NAME ______________________

ADDRESS ______________________

TELEPHONE ______________________

I agree to the following:

1—To supply all seed and materials.

2—To plant and tend garden, including hoeing and cultivating in a workmanlike manner, until it is harvested.

3—To use due care that no trees be damaged.

4—To waive all claims for damages against the owner of the land and the Birmingham Farm and Garden Association, arising out of my use of the land for garden purposes, or the sale of the land at any time during my use of it.

5—That in the event of the sale of the lot, all my rights would terminate.

Dated at Birmingham, Michigan, ______________, Month

__________, 1942. Day

______________________ Signature of Applicant

Mail or Send to
Conservation Department of
Women's National Farm and Garden Association,
Office of Civilian Defense, Municipal Bldg.,
Birmingham, Michigan.

(Don't Write in This Space)

Lot ______ Subdivision ______

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

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

FACTS ABOUT FILTERS

(Continued from last week)

Emulsions. When we understand how the various emulsions react to colors, we will be halfway along our understanding of the action of filters. All films are most sensitive to blue light. In other words, blue burns into the emulsion most easily, turns the negative dark or black the quickest, and results in a much lighter rendition in our prints than is normal. That is why blue sky and white clouds so often appear as a vast expanse of white in our pictures. Also, if we use an "ortho" emulsion to photograph a bed of red flowers, this color just won't register. Hence, where RED should register, we will have a clear, or almost clear area in our negative, which, when printed, becomes dark or black. The brilliancy of the red flower is lost. On the other hand, ortho film is highly sensitive to green, which is the reason why grass and foliage will appear brighter. Exposure liberties will not solve our problem of balancing correct monochrome rendition of colors, hence, filters.

Filters. The purpose of a filter is to hold back a certain color, or colors, while the others have a chance to register. While so doing, a filter passes its own color. Somewhere, years ago, we remember reading a jingle: "There are three main colors—red, green and blue. Any one of these will absorb the other two." The poet who worked up that rhyme, should have tried in some way to include yellow too—because yellow also absorbs blue. And that is the reason the yellow filter is so commonly mentioned and used. It is a fine general purpose filter, suitable for use with pan and ortho films. Because a filter passes its own color, while holding back the others you will understand what a yellow filter will do in conjunction with ortho film. First, it will hold back the powerful blue light. Holding back means darkening in the final print. Therefore the sky will be darker than the clouds, and we'll be able to see the latter. A yellow No. 2 filter is ideally suited for use with ortho films. In winter scenes, too, it is of great help because of the excessive amount of blue reflected from the snow. Here again, as in the sky scene, the blue is absorbed to some extent, permitting the other colors to register, thus giving our snow texture instead of a flat white-washed effect.

The most recent innovations in emulsions have been those of the hyper-sensitive panchromatic type—films of extreme speed, acutely sensitive to reds. The danger of using these films without filters is that the reds being overly active, will register almost white in our prints, while the sky as usual, will be chalk white without any semblance of clouds. To control this highly active emulsion, a green filter was developed, known as the X-1. Passing its own color, remember, it builds up the yellows and greens; while holding back the reds and blues. Thus the reds won't turn out chalk white but will be subdued a bit, and the clouds will have a chance to register while the blue sky is held back.

There are three yellow filters, K1, K2 and K3. The first is a very light yellow and is used where some correction is desired, but where exposure time cannot be increased without showing motion. K2, the medium yellow, for use with ortho or pan films, is ideal for landscapes. The K3 is almost extinct—it gives strong contrasty results in ortho films, darkens the skies, and brings clouds out in vivid contrast.

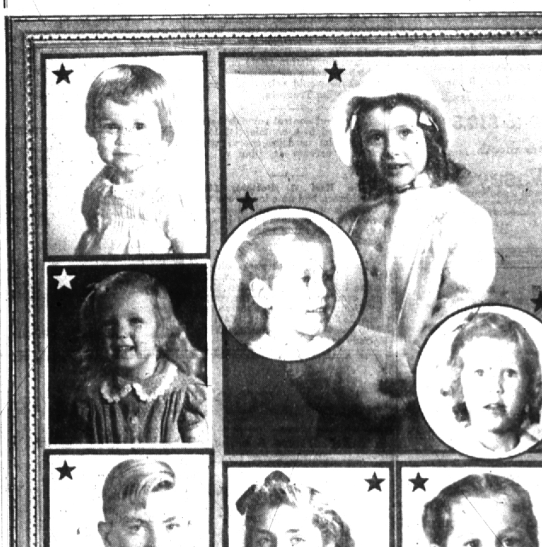
The green X-1 filter we have already mentioned as being a splendid all-purpose filter for use with ultra-speed pan films. There is also a darker green, labelled X-2. This is used for the same purpose as the X-1, but under artificial light only. About the only other filter the beginner may become concerned with is the A and G filter—the Red and Orange for bringing dramatic effects to pan emulsions. Those dark, almost black skies, that give a "moonlight" effect are all accomplished on pan film with an A filter.

Filter Factors: Remember that filters hold back light, therefore it is necessary to always increase exposures when filters are used. This increase in exposures will vary with every type of filter, and every type of film used. Extreme care must be exercised in exposures with filters, as the filter effect is eradicated if film is over-exposed. Your best bet always is to study the chart that accompanies each package of film, which gives these increases in exposure tables.

General Recommendations: Purchase only one or two filters at the outset, and become perfectly familiar with them. Use only one type of film, thus simplifying the filter factor problem. Be extremely accurate in exposure. Your filter is designed to hold back certain colors. If you over-expose the effect of the filter is destroyed.

'A Junior Album'

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



TOP CENTER, standing: Paula, daughter of Mrs. Shirley Paris, 915 Harmon. CIRCLE INSETS: Judith and Carol, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Lund, 680 Linden. BOTTOM ROW: Edward and Marilyn, children of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence P. Davey, 912 Ridgedale. Ann and Jack, children of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Shenefield, 3535 Woodale Court. LEFT TOP, Cynthia and Anniejane, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Carman Adams, 23975 13-Mile road. RIGHT TOP: Nancy Lee and Barbara Ann, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Voorhies, 1004 Brookwood Court. This feature arranged by the Beatrice Studio, Birmingham.

GARDENS PLOWED

A reliable and experienced plowman has been received for the Victory Gardens in the Birmingham vicinity. A Ford tractor will be used, and the garden plot will be plowed, disced and dragged at a minimum rate. For those signed up for this service a survey of the plot or lot will be made next week and the plowing will be done around the first of April when the ground is ready.

Soil can be tested by the McClellan feed store at 155 South Woodward Avenue. Soil should be taken from more than one place in the plot preferrably an inch or so below the soil from where the roots feed. A handful is enough to test.

For anyone wishing more space for a vegetable garden, vacant lots are available. Letters have been sent to all vacant lot owners asking permission to use the land for this purpose and only the lot owners giving their whole-hearted endorsement will be used. The gardener in return will clear and level the ground when finished. It must be remembered that the use of the ground this year will increase its fertility for future use.

For further information on lots or plowing, apply to the Garden desk at the office of Civilian Defense, Municipal Building.—The Conservation Committee of the Birmingham branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association.

CRAB TREES AVAILABLE

Following is a notice received from Mrs. Gordon Craven, chairman of the roadside improvement committee of the Garden Club:

"ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS: Now is the time to get your orders in for Malus floribunda (flowering crabapple) trees. Send checks with orders to Mrs. Robert Ball, 1490 Fairway drive, or to Mrs. Gordon Craven, 2388 Fairway drive. Help the Garden Club keep Birmingham the 'City of the Flowering Crab'."

Happenings of Long Ago

50 Years Ago
March 24, 1892

Married at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. Harbison, March 10 were Miss Anna Harbison and Mr. Vick James. Many friends wish them a smooth and pleasant voyage through life.

Mrs. Jos. Mead had returned from New York where she had been spending the winter with friends.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Peters, a daughter on March 17, St. Patrick's Day.

"Miss Clara Starr is without doubt the sweetest and cutest little banjo player we ever listened to. Hereafter," the Eccentric stated, "no musicale in this town will be complete without the two sisters, Minnie and Clara."

25 Years Ago
March 23, 1917

Mrs. W. C. Harris, chairman of the Red Cross had written a letter saying that the Red Cross was anxious to have on hand a quantity of non-parishable goods should this country become involved in war.

Mrs. Louise Elizabeth Spilker, wife of John B. Spilker, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. McAlpine, of this village, died at her home in Cincinnati, Ohio, on Sunday. She left, besides her husband, two children, John, Jr., and Maribel.

A card had been received from Charles J. Shain to the effect that he was in Los Angeles, Calif., and visiting all the prominent cities out there, it seemed.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Withee were expected back soon from a winter's stay in St. Petersburg, Fla.

5 Years Ago
March 25, 1937

Mrs. Paul D. Lovett died at St. Joseph Hospital on Saturday morning as a result of injuries sustained Friday evening when she was struck by an automobile.

Approximately $190 in damage was done to the interior of the J. L. Cox home at 849 Henrietta on March 18, when gas escaping from the refrigerator caught fire and caused dense clouds of suffocating smoke to fill the house.

The marriage of Janet McCarthy, daughter of the Charles P. McCarthys, of Park street, and Roland Earl Beldon, son of the Roy Beldons of Seymour, Ind., was solemnized last Wednesday.

Over at the University of Michigan the following students had just been initiated into Greek societies—Perry Vaughan, Chi Phi; Maxwell Mathews, Delta Tau Delta; and Mary Jane Kinnison, Pi Beta Phi.