

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

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

FUEL OIL RATIONING

Is fuel oil rationing really necessary in this part of the country? At first glance, one might question it, but there are several facts which cannot be overlooked.

Fuel oil is distilled from petroleum along with gasoline. The gasoline, being lighter, comes off first, then comes kerosene, the furnace oils, lubricating oils and greases and finally, paraffin or asphalt, depending on the type of the crude. That is the general picture.

Less Need for Gasoline. The point is, when automobile travel is restricted to gas rubber, now, certain pipe lines which come into Toledo and Detroit are being diverted toward the East, which is straggled by the shortage of ocean tankers.

These oil lines are not the only source, however, for much fuel oil comes into Detroit by way of what from the refineries at Whitefish Bay and Toledo, and then comes to Detroit by the way of the Little Canada line.

Another thought which can be injected into the picture is the fact that if there should be a surplus of gasoline, less of it need be made by the cracking method. Cracking is a notable invention by which the larger and heavier molecules of oil are broken down under heat and pressure into lighter molecules.

Uncertain. Frankly, nobody knows for certain what will happen, either about the price of eggs, the fuel oil situation or how long the war will last. It may develop that there is no fuel oil shortage in this area, and in such event, the rationing tickets you get will permit you to get as much as you need, in just the same way that no individual seems to be suffering from lack of sugar.

Care Of Silks. Silk is washable, wash it often, as soil rots the fabric. Use soft lukewarm water, and be sure color is fast by testing a small sample. Work quickly. Remove buttons and trimmings before washing. Do not wring or twist. Remove water in rinsing. Roll in Turkish towel to remove excess moisture. Dry in shade. Iron carefully with a moderate heat. Most silks can be ironed before quite dry or under a damp cloth to preserve the appearance of the weave. Never sprinkle silk, and iron only along length of material. Do not confuse silks with rayon. Do not take a chance on washing a silk garment that is the dry cleaner's.

RAYON: In general, the washing of rayon is the same as for silk, except that rayon fabrics are weakened when they are wet. Lift them out of the rinse water; never pull out by grabbing one edge of the material. Iron when dry, as ironing often opens holes in damp rayon. Use a pressing cloth if necessary, and iron on the wrong side with a warm iron.

Wool Is Scarce. Know the content of wool in your garment, and whether it is a virgin (new), reprocessed (made over from new wool), or remade (made over from used wool). The latter requires more gentle treatment than the virgin.

"Newspaper Week"

Throughout the United States this week is being commemorated "Newspaper Week"; practically every American newspaper is commenting upon the value of a free press in a nation such as ours.

"In America newspapers have become as much a part of our daily life as the weather. We cuss the weather and we cuss our newspapers."

"For over 200 years our American newspapers has been bringing us the happenings of our home communities, the news of the nation and the world. We have come to depend upon it. We have learned that nothing can happen that will long escape the men who patrol the news lanes of the world. We have felt secure in that knowledge. We know that where graft existed, sooner or later our newspaper would drag it into the open; that where there was corruption it would be exposed; that where public officials failed in their duties it would be reported; that where there were enemies to our democracy we would be told about it."

"And because we have for long years grown accustomed to that kind of public service we have come to take it for granted. Even if we ever stop to think how vital this free press of ours is to our American way of living and what stark terror would be ours if there were a blackout of news or if it were controlled as it is in the Axis countries. Because our newspapers have been free to bring us all the news they can get, we as American people know more about what our government and other governments are doing than do the people of any other country. America has given us that check upon government, that protection of our rights as citizens which no constitution has been able to provide."

"In every community the newspaper is the people's forum; it is the community center round which you and your neighbors gather every day to learn of the activities in your own town, of the national and world events which may affect you. It is the newspaper moreover which is back of every worthwhile community enterprise, striving to make your town more prosperous, to make it a better place to live in."

"Without this medium for disseminating information and for making public opinion articulate our democracy could not exist."

Wayne County Home Rule

The people of Wayne County want to reorganize their county government. They need your help to bring about this change.

They are appealing to you to support and vote for Proposal No. 2 on the State Amendment Ballot to be submitted at the General Election on November 3rd.

This amendment provides for Home Rule for Wayne County. It does not apply to any other county in Michigan. Because it would amend the State Constitution, it must, under the law, be voted upon by all counties. For that reason, Wayne must have the support of her neighbors in other counties, if she is to win her struggle for home rule and clean government.

Why, you may ask, does Wayne County need Home Rule?

The need has been apparent for many years. The recent Wayne County Grand Jury indictments, convictions, fines of guilt, prison sentences of grafters and job-takers gave final proof of the necessity, final proof of a fact long suspected, that Wayne's government is a mess which Home Rule alone can clean up.

This campaign is not directed against individuals or groups. It is directed simply and entirely against evils in government; evils which sprang up because the present system, for Wayne, is archaic, cumbersome, wasteful and, worst of all, without direct responsibility to the people.

The machinery with which Wayne now attempts to govern herself was erected more than half a century ago, when the county had a population of 50,000. Today the population is around 2,000,000. A governmental set-up designed for a population of 50,000 cannot now serve a unit of 2,000,000. That is back could serve in a swiftly-moving flow of motorized transportation. In the last half century, Wayne has been transformed from a mixed industrial and agricultural community into a gigantic metropolitan area embracing some of the largest manufacturing enterprises in the world—the arsenal of Democracy. In that same period, her government has stood still. The fact that her governing machinery has broken down in a mess of corruption and inefficiency is the price exacted by the people's failure to keep their government in step with the progress of the county.

Governor "Pat" Van Wagener has refused to take a stand on the Wayne County Home Rule Amendment. His Republican opponent, Harry E. Kelly, is for the Amendment. That shows, in our opinion, that "Pat" is still a politician, while Kelly may have the makings of a Statesman.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to accept stories of public interest which have news value and which are written by persons who are not connected with the paper. The writer should send the original and a copy to the Editor, The Birmingham Eccentric, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Mich. The writer should retain a copy of the original and a copy of the article for the Editor's use. The Eccentric will be glad to return the original to the writer if desired. Payment will be made to the writer if the article is used.

Birmingham Scrap Harvest—Oct. 5-17



THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

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

300 PRINTS DISPLAYED. The photographic exhibit sponsored by the Birmingham Camera Club and held at Economy House in conjunction with the annual Village Fair was one of the outstanding exhibits at the fair. Over 200 prints were displayed, and included the work of over 50 amateurs. Many famous exhibitions and prize prints were on exhibit, and the club is to be congratulated for bringing to Birmingham a truly fine display.

CLUB TO MEET AT CRANBROOK. Plans of the Birmingham Camera Club for the year include one meeting per month to be held at the photography department of Cranbrook, where through the courtesy of the school and Joe Morrow, their splendid laboratory facilities will be made available to the members. Meetings will be held twice a month, second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

THE HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY. In 1816 the Frenchman Nicéphore Niépce used a crude miniature camera made out of an old pewee box with a lens from a microscope, and made negative prints on paper. He met a few of his neighbors to his brother, complaining about the reversal of the picture. He was then struck by Niépce's work he might have made positive prints from his first results, and thus stumbled on the negative-positive theory. Instead he abandoned the use of silver chloride paper and sought a way to make direct positives. By 1827 he had succeeded in his quest. Pewter, covered with sensitive material, which could be exposed behind a translucent drawing or print, or in the camera, was then fastened in a wooden box which dissolved only those areas unobscured by light. The image met areas so revealed were then treated in one of two ways. They could be etched with acid to form a plate which could be used and printed by the intaglio process, like a copper plate engraving. The other way was to expose the sensitive surface of the bare areas, and then to wash away the unexposed areas, leaving a surface which could be inked with the lines of an etching. Plates reproducing engravings made in this way, have no known examples extant of his camera work.

Presenting young people of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and vicinity... for them and the youth of America, we strive for Victory and a just peace!

Advertisement for 'A Junior Album' featuring a grid of photographs of young people. Text includes: 'Presenting young people of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and vicinity... for them and the youth of America, we strive for Victory and a just peace!' and 'TOP CENTER: Dorothy Ann Armiter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Boyd H. Armiter, 812 Pleasant. BOTTOM CENTER: Janet, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William A. McHattie, West Long Lake road. LEFT SIDE, top to bottom: Winnifred, Robert and Max, children 1230 Northlake. This feature arranged by the Heatrice Studio, Birmingham.'

Advertisement for WAREEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT. Text includes: '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'. Address: BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WAREEK BUILDING.

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Advertisement for 'SALVAGE MEMO' with a list of instructions: 'TIN CANS—Rinse after using, remove label, open bottom end and flatten with foot. Place in curbs for City collection. The last week of every month. Keep dry, keep separate from rubbish.' 'WASTE PAPER—Strain and keep cool. Turn in to your meat market when you have a few pounds. Rancid fats not wanted.' 'SCRAP METALS, GLASS, RUBBER—Leave in bin near foot office as put at curb. The City collection the last week of the month. Copper engraver's plates and other keeps may be left at the library.' 'NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES—You can donate these to the Salvation Army, which will take care for them. Phone 4014. Scrap paper not wanted.'

French Photographic Society. Paris. Daguerre kept his process entirely secret, and tried to market it through public exhibition of his result. He found it difficult to convince people that his results were not obtained by magical means, and he faced a general skepticism. There had been several scientific hoaxes in the 17th century and there was a general resistance to new ideas. An effort to secure royal patronage, daguerotypes were sent to the crowned heads of Europe. Finally, early in 1839, Daguerre found a friend in the scientific world, the physicist and politician Francois Arago who promised to bring his process to the Academy of Sciences. The Academy acted on Arago's suggestion and voted to investigate Daguerre's work. The view of recommending to the government its outright purchase. The curious nature of the process was dramatic, announcement and at once there was much speculation on the precise nature of the process. (To be continued)

Have You Met... The William H. Stone, Jr. of 775 Maple avenue? For some time now, Mr. Stone, who is an architect here for a few years is in Detroit. He has been commuting between Detroit and Saginaw and finally the family decided to come closer to his work. Moving to Birmingham was just like coming home anyway. Mrs. Stone says, for they lived here for a few years 12 years ago. The biggest changes they notice in the town is the shopping center which has been a great deal and become much more versatile in the past 13 years. The stores have three children: Pvt. William H. Stone, Jr., 22, who is stationed with the coast artillery, antiaircraft intelligence center, Mass. Seventeen-year old Joan is a senior at Baldwin this year and Eva, May, 9, attends Quarton School.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Gorman, who recently came from Detroit to Birmingham to live at 791 Hennetta street. The Gormans were married in July of this year, and have been looking for a place out here ever since, as this was Mr. Gorman's home prior to his marriage. Mrs. Gorman was formerly Pat Davidson, a native of N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Force and their three children, who moved here from Atlanta, Ga. They had lived in Atlanta for six years, and came to Michigan when Mr. Force, who is an accountant, was transferred to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation office in Detroit and their three children decided on Birmingham as a place to live because of the fine reputation of the schools and the fact that it seemed like a lovely place to live. Their children are Ralph, Jr., 9, and Corneilia, 6 boys, who attend Querton School, and Jane, who is 4.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court of the City of Detroit, in and for the 15th day of September, A. D. 1942.

Present, Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.

In the Matter of the Estate of E. S. Ozer, Deceased.

John H. Lane having filed a petition praying that an instrument filed in said court be admitted to Probate, that it will and testament of said deceased, and that said instrument be admitted to be granted to the petitioner or to some other person named therein, it is hereby ordered, That the 15th day of October, A. D. 1942, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, is hereby appointed for hearing said petition.

It is further Ordered, That any objections thereto be given by publication of a copy hereof in the Detroit Free Press, previous to said day of hearing, in the amount of \$100.00, and that the said petition and instrument filed in said court, and that the same be admitted to be granted to be served personally or by registered mail, on the 15th day of October, 1942, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon at the place of the known heirs or legal representatives of said deceased, and that any objections thereto be given by publication of a copy hereof in the Detroit Free Press, previous to said day of hearing, in the amount of \$100.00.

ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate, 15-42-42