

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

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL

After reading over the statements of candidates for Congress, I came to the conclusion that there are but two really important issues upon which the voters must make their choices.

The question of support for the war effort is somewhat academic at this point, it seems to me. Obviously, every candidate promises to support the war. Nor is a mere pledge of support to the Administration enough, for so far the Administration has been laggard in many ways in asserting leadership, particularly on the domestic scene.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 Years Ago

"The vicinity of the old Morris Mill has been haunted precinct, in fact two of the draught apparatuses appeared recently and a fight was paralyzed."

"When our fire tower is completed and surrounded by the bell already sought and paid for we will have about as fine accommodations for storing hose carts, hose and other village property as could be wished."

"The Franklin Cornet Band will give a grand basket party in the Wallace Grace new barn near Farmington."

"Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Shultz have returned from a motor trip to Holland and Grand Rapids."

"Miss Raechel MacKay has left for Granville, Ohio, where she will attend college for the year."

"Charles Norton of Charlevoix has been a recent guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Staley on Brown street."

"Announcement was made by the United States Treasury Department that \$15,000 had been made available for the purchase of a site and construction of a new office building in Birmingham."

"With registration still in progress at Baldwin High School, a total of 705 names had been listed, a slight increase over the previous year."

"Charles J. Shain was named chairman of the annual Halloween festival for the third consecutive year."

"The Village Players announced the following cast for their first play of the year: James E. Bullock, Mr. Harold E. Middleton, G. E. Estabrook, Mr. 182 Asper, Mrs. E. E. Hammonds, Fred Farrar, and W. Carleton Scott. G. M. Doolley, assisted by Mrs. Bolfe C. Spinning, was to direct the play."

"Orry the Ad - Mrs. Marys? Are you a football player? He - You bet, I'm a substitute. She - Well, I accept no substitutes."

War Outlook Encouraging

The war outlook is not calculated to forecast victory at any early date, but the essential outcome seems to be reasonably assured unless Hitler can pull a few rabbits out of his hat.

There are several encouraging developments, including: (1) The clear fact that Germany has not yet won her campaign against Russia and that the Nazis must accomplish more in the last half of the fighting season than they have in the first period to make the 1942 campaign a success.

(2) The fact that the United States Navy is now strong enough to risk a decisive sea battle with the Japanese fleet. This was the plan invitation extended to the Japanese by the attack upon the Solomon Islands. The quick sweep of the Japs through the Far East was the result of overwhelming sea control, as much as air power and trained soldiers.

(3) The increasing activity of American aerial forces all over the globe. This means that certain preliminary work has been accomplished, that bases, etc. have been established and that, from now on, our aircraft will help beat down German and Japanese supporters at places of contact.

Moreover, the U-boat campaign seems to be less dangerous, our shipyards are fast constructing tonnage, our war production is increasing, and our soldiers and sailors are becoming hardened and ready for any eventuality that may face them.

The original purpose of patents, as we understand them, it was to encourage invention by giving inventors certain advantages for the complete disclosure of their "secret." Foreigners were permitted to share the privileges for the same reason.

Considerable criticism of the present patent system has been based upon the secret agreements between American ministers and foreign corporations, often the agents of foreign governments, which attempt to divide the world into areas of trade, thus stultifying rather than developing commerce.

The justification for the advantages given to inventors remains, but some method must be adopted to prevent the control of patents from developing world monopolies. If this cannot be accomplished in any other way, it will be done by legislation.

AMERICANS MAY THANK the workings of traditional Commonwealth that Jim Farley's candidacy for Governor of New York beat out the candidate of President Roosevelt. The President certainly gives us the appearance of a man who not only breaks the third term tradition, but who seeks to control the nation's affairs for an indefinite period. From the standpoint of decent American civics, Farley looms plenty high today.

Ferguson Is Right

Judge Homer Ferguson, opening his campaign for the United States Senate, at Kalamazoo, did some straight talking when he declared himself in favor of compelling the Upper House to get absolute facts about the war situation; he lamented the half-overly the nation's tendency toward disunity.

The Judge, in his three-year banding of grand jury proceedings in Detroit and Wayne County, certainly did get to the facts and several score of people now languish in prison as the result of the jurist's able work.

Yes, sir, what this country needs is less politics, more plain old-fashioned honesty and decency the kind that characterized Judge Ferguson's handling of the grand jury he presided over.

While this newspaper is one of a number of Republican publications in Michigan that believe Senator Prentiss M. Brown should be re-elected (for reasons we have already set forth) and will repeat again later, we heartily urge the utterance of Homer Ferguson as valuable to the continuity of self-government in this country.

Another Republican candidate whose sincerity cannot be questioned, either, is Elton R. Eaton, Plymouth publisher, whose words in these days isn't, alas! being heard enough.

Prize Worrier

A lady in Iowa, it seems, is doing her worrying early. A news dispatch from Sidney, Australia, reports her plea for an Australian newspaper, asking it to do all possible to prevent marriages between United States soldiers and Australian girls.

The basis of the plea is that "already thousands of American girls face shipwreck and lives of loneliness because of the shortage of marriageable men occasioned by the war."

This letter is entitled to first prize in any contest that seeks to discover the world's best and earliest worrier.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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We Can't Equal Their Sacrifices, but We Might Try



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THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

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

HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY

From time to time we have been asked to briefly outline some of the historical highlights pertaining to photography. Articles and books have been written by the score, a number of them authentic, and a great many more containing misinformation and exaggerations. Perhaps the best historical data has been compiled by Beaumont Newhall, curator of the Department of Photography at the Museum of Modern Art.

Practical photography is just over one hundred years old. In 1839 two techniques were given to the world—daguerrotypy, direct positive on silver-coated paper, and talbotype, or paper positives from paper negatives. Both processes are named after the men who first described them, the Frenchman Daguerre and the Englishman Talbotype.

While these were the first practical techniques, both inventors depended upon the results of earlier experimenters. It is logical to divide these pioneers into two groups—those who discovered the reaction of metal salts to light, and those who brought the camera into being.

Early Photochemistry For certain it had been noticed that certain metallic salts, particularly those of silver, darkened when exposed to sunlight. It was supposed that this phenomenon was due to the heat of the sun's rays until, in 1727, the German physicist, Johann Heinrich Schuler, performed the classical experiment which proved conclusively that the reaction was due to light. He passed paper letters on a bottle which had been filled with a mixture of chalk and silver nitrate. The mixture blackened on exposure to light, except for those areas directly behind the letters. Upon removing the letters, their shapes, therefore, momentarily appeared as white upon a black ground, until the action of the light darkened them to the same shade as the entire mixture. Schuler found it impossible to duplicate this result by the heat of a fire, and concluded that silver salts were sensitive to light alone. It has been argued that Schuler was, in fact, the first photographer and that his record of patted up letters to light, except for those areas directly behind the letters, seems a far-fetched theory. Schuler had no desire to fix an image, and even pushed his experiments to the point of rendering the unexposed silver salts insensitive to light.

A few years later Schuler's experiment was repeated by Dr. William Henry Fox Talbot. Upon the death of this scientist his notebooks, which contained a full description of the experiment, were acquired by the famous portrait painter, Josiah Wedgwood, who also gave employment to Talbot's former assistant as a tutor to his son Tom. Among the products for which the Wedgwood pottery was famous were other services decorated with pictures of the castles and country seats of the English nobility. It was these sketches for these painted scenes were secured by the aid of the "camera obscura" regularly.

(To be continued) PHOTO EXHIBIT AT COMMUNITY HOUSE The Birmingham Camera Club announces that an exhibit of photographs will be held at the Community House in conjunction with the annual flower show, and the exhibit will be open Saturday, Sept. 26. The photographic exhibit is open to all amateur and professional photographers residing or working in the greater Birmingham area. The exhibit is suggested that all photographs be mounted on Standard 16 x 20 board mounts. Entries are limited to not over two prints. The Community House will accept entries between Sept. 24 and Sept. 24. There is no entrance fee. The Birmingham Camera Club will man one of the booths during the flower show, and information regarding club activities may be obtained.

Have You Met . . .

Lieut. and Mrs. Richard Partridge who are living in the Bloomfield Apartments on Bloomfield Court. They came from Bat Creek, after Lieut. Partridge received his commission and was stationed with the 6888 Central Postal Directory, Army Department, Detroit. Both are actually natives of Indiana, although Partridge spent his early life traveling around the world with his parents who were theatrical missionaries. When they had to come to this area from Bat Creek, they decided to try Birmingham because they had heard that it was a lovely place to live.

Consumer News Let's All Help!

YOU CAN AID THE WAR! -What I'm too young to fight, or I'm busy at my job, or I'm not a citizen and I can't get into this war? What can I do? These are questions all serious-minded citizens are asking themselves today. The answers to these are to be found in the new booklet offered by the Office of Civilian Defense entitled "What Can I Do."

This booklet contains all the things that we feel everyone should have a copy, and in the following paragraphs we will try to give some idea of its contents.

"It written," says the introduction, "for people who have the will to fight but who have little or no spare time to give to committees, meetings, training courses, community war work. This is your war—and your part in it is clear. You don't need spare time. You need imagination! Use the connection between tasks which you may seem small and unimportant—and the war!"

Classified by Jobs Chapters are all aimed at particular jobs. The first comes a long chapter on "What Every Job Can Do—Everywhere"; then the civilian services are explained in detail. Next is a chapter called "What Men and Women in Industry and Business Can Do." In detail, the booklet discusses suggestions for everyone from factory workers to the gardener to the bus driver to the miner.

Two other chapters tell "What Professionals Can Do," "What Do," and "What Men and Women on the Farm Can Do." The booklet is urged to put the family to work in the war effort. It suggests rubber by planning shopping trips carefully; to share the car with neighbors; to use the bus; to car to go places within walking distance. Short trips cut up miles of traffic.

Walking is good for you and your country! To take care of clothes; to conserve food; not to hoard; to search homes for salvage materials; and to press the entire family to war service. There is even a chapter on "What Boys and Girls Can Do."

Helping the U.S.O., writing letters to the boys in service who come into your home through such agencies as the "Dime-a-Soldier Club," and using your work as roomers, studying first aid, and helping to convert women's work clothes into uniforms, are suggested to Mrs. Housewife.

Suggestions for Art Quotations from the booklet that seem especially good are: "Doing that all of us can" and "should do is to prepare our homes against possible enemy air raids. We can do this by using our own making weapons and from sending them to our men at the front. We can also do this by using our own making weapons and from sending them to our men at the front. We can also do this by using our own making weapons and from sending them to our men at the front."

Get along with less—every time you decide not to buy something. The enemy is trying to divide us and conquer us by means of a carefully planned campaign of fear. We can beat him at his own game by a carefully planned campaign of truth.

The V-Homes Those families who are helping conscientiously in the war effort are entitled to a "V-Homes" certificate. Such people pledge themselves actively to the instruction of the air-raid warden to have their home ready for air raids; to conserve food; to conserve clothing, transportation and health; to salvage essential materials; not to spread rumors; and to buy war bonds and stamps regularly.

All in all, this booklet is the most helpful thing in the community. It is a must for every citizen of his part in the war. Many of the booklets will doubtless be available soon, at present they can be had by sending in a postal card to Station WJL in Detroit with a request for "What Can I Do?"

Prepared Mrs. Heck—Henry, do you think we are prepared for a war? Henry (alarmed) Why? Is your mother coming to visit us soon? Roosevelt must "Class House" to win. The last week of every month in Salvage Week in Birmingham. Put your prepared tin cans, bottles, rags and metal at the curb for collection then.

SALVAGE MEMO

TIN CANS—Rinse after using, remove label, cut bottom end and flatten with foot. Place at curb for City collection, the last week of every month. Keep dry; keep separate from rubbish.

WASTE FATS—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 POST Office or put at curb for City collection the last week of the month. Copper engravers' plates and old keys may be left at the curb.

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES—You can donate these to Salvation Army, which will call for them. Phone 4614. Scrap paper not wanted.

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT. 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. "A friendly bank"

A Junior Album

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



TOP CENTER: Kathryn Ann, daughter of Lieut. and Mrs. W. C. Long Lake road. TOP RIGHT: Theodore William, son of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin. BOTTOM CENTER: Jill and Ann, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Kinney, 1836 Oak. TOP LEFT: David Robert, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Galver, 1070 Lincoln Court. BELOW: Nancy Carol and Arlene Frances, daughters of Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Rice, West