I am impressed with the great world in which we live; never more did I firmly believe that what we call death is but a part of life itself—and therefore not the end of life at all. To live for little things is much harder than dying for great things—for the latter develops courage, spirit's supports.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 25 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1942 | $1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

THE

IDEAL

FARM

Seldom indeed does such a property become available for purchase; so much time and thought and money goes into its planning that usually it is handed down to the next generation. However, here, briefly, is the data:

LAND—80 acres—excellent Miami clay loam—largely seeded to red clover or alfalfa.

RESIDENCE—Sprawling white clapboard Colonial, homey as can be.

First Floor—Living room with fireplace, dining room, panelled library, morning room with fireplace, guest room and bath, butler's pantry and kitchen, 2 servants' rooms and bath.

Second Floor—4 bedrooms, 3 baths (all baths have stainless steel and glass shower doors and beautifully finished walls.

Basement—Oil burning vacuum steam plant; laundry, etc.

OUT BLDGS.—An excellent barn with stanchions for cattle and box stalls for your horses, well house, 4 car garage; chicken house, wood shed, cement stave silo.

MISC.—All driveways are blacktopped, fencing is excellent and is mostly modern wood rail type. Up-to-date tennis court and summer house; gorgeous shrubbery and plantings; every kind of fruit and berries imaginable.

OWNER LEAVING COMMUNITY

MAX BROOCK INC.

REALTORS

Established 1895

ELMHURST 6530 — BIRMINGHAM 1212

A VERY *FEW* DOLLARS PER MONTH

Will Fix Up Your Home

Why put up with crowded living conditions—why put off needed repairs—when only a few dollars a month will pay for a complete remodeling job on your home?

We will gladly cooperate with you and your contractor in helping you with plans and ideas that will bring new beauty and new comfort into your home.

LAWSON & SON

484 FOREST — PHONE 111

Lumber . . Fuel . . Builders' Supplies

"What would FIRE mean to you?"—"Defend against fire."

SLAP THE JAP! Buy War Bonds FROM INCOME

SAVE RUBBER

and save part of your income for after Victory!

$1 opens your Savings Account.. *earnings are added.*

You can buy War Bonds and Stamps more conveniently here . . .

CURRENT RATE 3% OF DIVIDENDS

BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL

SAVINGS & LOAN ASS'N

Industry Hangs Precariously on Scrap Collections

BY GENE ALLEMAN
Michigan Press Association

Uncle Sam has scraped the bottom of the barrel for steel metal.

Unless plain Americans everywhere, in thousands of villages and towns and cities, and on thousands of farms everywhere, dig down into their own scrap barrel, Americans boys will go without vitally needed tanks and airplanes and other arms of war and our Allies may be deprived of weapons with which to fight our battles before we can open our Second Front.

That's a pretty long sentence, but it may be a longer one—as a dictator would impose it—if we Americans fail to deliver. But it's the plain truth.

Go to Washington

Four Michigan newspapermen were invited to attend a conference in Washington a few days ago. They came from Detroit, Ironwood, Grand Rapids and Lansing. We happened to be one of them.

Traveling to Washington these days is no picnic, we assure you.

We couldn't get sleeping accommodations out of Washington at all, although we made our reservations one week in advance. Finally, at the last minute while in Washington, we managed to get accommodations on another railroad. We arrived at the capital at 8:20 a. m. and left at 5:20 p. m.—just long enough to hear this unusual story.

Government officials, headed by Donald Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, reiterated the urgent need for more scrap iron. They were all "big shots."

Next 60 Days

Lieut. General Brehon Sommervell, the commanding general for services of supply, and Vice Admiral S. M. Robinson, chief of bureau of procurement and material, both stressed the imperative importance of getting more metal to the steel mills in the next 60 days.

Elmer Davis, director of the Office of War Information, said the war could be won quicker if "a great part of the effort comes from the groups north"—meaning the people themselves—in getting every ounle of scrap out of their homes and their farms. And that means old shovels, rakes, sewing machines, ironing machinery—anything that contains iron.

A hard-hitting industrialist whose language consisted of short, blunt words and whose broad jaw reminded us of a bulldog, almost "stole the show."

Bottom of the Barrel

"We have at last struck the bottom of the barrel," said R. W. Wolcott, president of the Lukens Steel company and chairman of the American Industries Salvage committee. "The steel mills of the United States have only a two-weeks' supply of scrap. The scrap is in the hands of the people. It is gold to the steel mills. Only a miracle can prevent reduced steel operations within the next few months."

Here was a realistic picture of America's plight.

Two weeks! And our war effort is just getting under way.

Mark Dance, head of the Department of Public Works, is disgusted. The underpass at Hunter and Oakland has just been freshly painted, but already certain thoughtless kids have written all over the walls. Two nine-year-olds were picked up for throwing old bread and tin cans in it.

Electric Sewer Cleaners

All roots and other obstacles removed. We save you money. No results, no charge. Don't dig up your lawn. Call us.

All work guaranteed
Local man—Terms
Phone R. O. 6699
30 minute service

$1,000 down and $50 per month

Nicely arranged 6 room house, space for ping-pong table, etc., in basement, 50' lot, 2-car garage — $5,500

Near schools and transportation, spacious yard, large trees, a family home with modernized kitchen, 2 baths — $8,500

Lone Pine Road Home for quick sale

Less than ½ of owner's cost
Studio living room, library, screen porch
4 bedrooms, 3 baths and quarters over 3-car garage
2½ acres, many shade and fruit trees

Walsh, James & Wasey Co.

DETROIT - BIRMINGHAM - BLOOMFIELD HILLS - LAPEER - ROCHESTER - NORTH MICHIGAN LAKES

Main Offices ..... Penobscot Bldg

Bits of Birmingham

Insofar as food is concerned, we are really learning that the country is at war. Butchers put in their orders but the packers cut the demands by one-half or one-third. One meat man actually goes into Detroit and shops around, buying whatever he can get.

—o—

One large chain store organization has notified its managers that hams and bacon are practically "out" for the duration.

—o—

Cured meats are easy to ship, needing little refrigeration, so a great deal is being sent to Britain and to our soldiers in their 30-odd bases throughout the world. Much fresh meat, too, is going to England to save the long haul from Australia and Argentina, which formerly supplied much meat to Britain. Then, too, the fact that Uncle Sam is donating this stuff to our ally probably influences British purchasing.

—o—

This Wanderer wonders why there is no ceiling on dairy products, particularly butter, which is easier to store than meat. Also, eggs.

—o—

Next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22.

—o—

Many will be meeting the new superintendent of schools for the first time. His appearance and manner of speech will impress you as indicating that the man is cultured, studious, precise, yet cordial and easy to talk with. He seems to know what he is about, and apparently will expect the very best that every teacher can offer.

—o—

Switching to another subject, this Wanderer records that Harold Worthington, 256 Daines street, had a blanket stolen from his car; also some gasoline. Somebody must have thought that gas rationing was to start Monday.

—o—

Then, too, this report about a horse makes one wonder whether Old Dobbin is again to be seen on our streets in numbers. Mrs. B. H. Armiger, 812 Pleasant avenue, reported last week that a horse tied to a post out front was strangling. Police untied him.

—o—

Lions Club played the Exchange Club last Wednesday night and made up for a defeat a year ago, trouncing the Exchangites in a game of hard softball.

—o—

Lester (Bud) Stinson, who has been at Wilson's lunch counter the past year, is going into business for himself in the restaurant on West Maple in the McBride building. A Mrs. Cunningham started it but closed recently; Bud's friends think he will make a go of it.

—o—

Dominic Caputo reports that fat salvage in Birmingham is picking up nicely as patriotic housewives get behind it. Tin can preparation, too, is improving slowly. Eventually, people will be somewhat ashamed to put out a basket of unprepared cans for city collection. It will show they are not 100 per cent behind the war effort. In case you haven't heard, cans should be rinsed, delabeled, both ends cut and turned in and then flattened. Keep dry and put out at the curb in a separate container the last week of every month.

—o—

Police, Sunday, found a red and white Roadmaster bicycle parked in back of the former salvage warehouse at Hunter and East Maple.

—o—

The City is wondering what to do about the newsboy tags, bicycle licenses, peddler tags, etc., which now cost double what they did a year ago . . . Don Egbert says a town in the East experimented with plastic tags for dogs and found that the animals ate them up.

—o—

Frank Skinner, of Beverly Hills, who edits the Pontiac Motor "Warrior," an employee publication, really got off a blunt headline in his last issue. Quoth he, in black type, "BUY BONDS TO BEAT THE BUMS."

—o—

Mrs. G. Cook, 544 Bates, says she is bothered by boys who shoot arrows at her house.

—o—

After considerable delay, the City's police cars are getting new frequency modulation radio receivers, replacing the old sets which had been temporarily converted. Signals come in strong with no static and may be received as far away as 15½ miles, which is the distance from the tip of the transmitter antenna to the horizon. Sometimes, we are told, the waves will bounce from electrified layers 100 miles up, and may travel a thousand miles, but you can't depend on it. The old-type radios are better for distance.

—o—

Police got a call the other day from a man on Smith street who said a neighbor's children were being left alone at various times, day or night. Blanche Breakey, City nurse, investigated and reported that there was no evidence of neglect.

—o—

Mrs. Martha P. Strelinger has filed suit for divorce against Charles G. Strelinger . . . Mrs. Eleanor Watt, Big Beaver, asks separate maintenance from Herald Watt . . . Mrs. Josephine Sullivan has secured a divorce from Cleveland Sullivan.

—o—

The President, himself, has suggested that every American ought to see the official Navy colored motion pictures on the recent Battle of Midway, so there is no harm in announcing here that it will come to the Birmingham Theatre Sept. 18, the same as in Detroit. Running for 18 minutes, it was shot by James Ford from the top of a power house. Commentary is by Donald Crisp, Henry Fonda and Jane Darwell.

—o—

The Rev. C. C. Becker, the friendly minister of the Methodist Church, is going to Albion today to take part in the funeral of an old friend, Mrs. Rosamond Keenan, known widely among older Albion graduates as the proprietress of a rooming house for students. Herself a college graduate, she was highly respected.

—o—

A certain man about town performed the almost unheard-of feat the other day of renting himself a furnished house for $35 a month.

—o—

This Wanderer's old friend, Bob Silbar, of Detroit, who is assistant executive director for Michigan salvage, reports in his little mimeographed weekly paper, Michigan Salvage News, the following incident about well-known Birmingham residents:

"Near Hale, Mich., H. E. Brelsford, chairman of the salvage committee of Diamond Power Specialty Corp., Detroit, found an old abandoned railroad line. His two sons, Dick, 12 and Tom, 8, undertook their own checking for loose iron lying along this road bed and brought back on their first trip 220 pounds of spikes and splice plates. They only brought the spikes they were able to pull out of the ties in the first half mile of roadbed. On their second trip they took a short crowbar and went with an older brother, bringing back 35½ pounds of spikes, again covering that same one-half mile of roadbed. In addition, they salvaged an old wood cook stove. In two weeks they turned in 784 pounds of steel and iron!"

—o—

R. L. Beers has been granted a patent on a chain take-up mechanism for chain grate furnace stokers; R. Thoreson was issued a patent on a metal stretching press. The latter should be particularly helpful in these days when we are stretching everything as far is it will go.

—o—

W. S. Toothacker, who has been in the schools for 25 years, recently spent his vacation near Washington, D. C., and while there, went to considerable trouble to find out how he could alter his physics and chemistry classes to make them of most value to students going to war . . . E. A. Hubbard will teach a new course in airplane mathematics; the new auto mechanics course will be valuable, too. In addition, high school girls and boys alike are now to get 2½ periods of physical education a week, something formerly not required of upperclassmen. Removing the Baldwin junior high made this possible in part.

—o—

Junior high students are now getting bus service if they are far removed, but one wonders how long it will continue. Joseph Eastman, national transportation coordinator, says most children should be able to walk at least two miles to school.

—o—

Fred W. Sabom, of Minneapolis, Minn., used to live in Birmingham, and each year he pays this community a visit. He always stops into The Eccentric office to renew his subscription, and to make a bit of pert comment anent something or other. Last week this is what he penned on a note to this Wanderer: "Much as I hate to say it, you get out a darn good paper; enjoy your editorials—some good and some better, not a bad one in the lot. If you see any of the old cronies, say 'Hello' for me. Oh, by the way, we have a lot of weeds in our town and when Bill Moody gets through pulling 'em up in Birmingham, tell him to come to Minneapolis, and I will supply the canvas gloves, so it will be easy for him; so send the Commissioner along, he needs some good western ozone."

—o—

This week, Howard Estes, Jr. left for Fort Custer. Just 25 years ago this month, his father, too, departed for that cantonment.

—o—

Johnny Bland, who was formerly quite active in the policy ticket in Birmingham, pleaded not guilty when arraigned in Circuit Court for his last arrest. He is free on bond. Johnny has apparently closed up his "office" in the barn fronting on the alley along the north side of East Maple. Who's getting the business now?

—o—

The Vance Day family, on Fairfax, is lamenting the demise of a huge sunflower which grew in the yard. It was 12 feet high, and had a blossom 16½ inches across, so heavy that a clothesline was used to bolster the stalk. Finally, however, it wilted away. . . . An informant tells us that Mr. Munson, of Floyd street, has corn 10 feet high.

—o—

Anyone phoning this office Tuesday morning must have suspected machine gun fire, or the addition of a boiler factory to our premises. Out in the street, the WPA air hammers were stuttering away with a terrific racket getting out the old rails, while right in our own building foundations, another air hammer was being used to cut a hole for a new coal chute.

—o—

Ward Abbott, nine years old, lost control the other day while riding his bicycle down the Willits hill. He bumped his head badly, but a passing ice man stopped, directed the traffic around the boy, and even put a chunk of ice on the lad's head. Now the mother, Mrs. John H. Abbott, of 480 Glenhurst, would like to learn the iceman's name so that she can thank him for his service.

—o—

Happy Hal, who testifies that there NEVER was a baby quite like his, reports how he fools the infant, now six weeks old. She is inclined to whimper when left alone in a quiet room; however, put her next to the radio, turn it on, and she is quite happy.

—o—

We get a kick out of that new cigarette plug on the radio: "Calling Germany . . . calling Adolf Hitler . . . Listen, Hitler! . . ." The announcer really puts a nasty tone in his voice when he addresses Adolf, or Mussolini, or Yamashita, whatever the case may be. . . . What next?

—o—

A patron rushed into the Birmingham Theatre Monday night and complained that men outside were passing out tags bearing the Nazi swastika. She was mollified when told that the swastika was set alongside a ballot square, the contrast emphasizing the fact that Americans had better vote if they want to stay free. Oakland City Register printed them and among those passing them out was Ralph Booth.

—o—

A friend informs this Wanderer that down in Washington certain Army commissions are referred to as "cellophane commissions" because one can see through them.

—o—

Bob Lynd, back from YMCA camp, showed us some nice camp photographs by E. A. Hubbard.

—o—

Hugh Mack, who spent the past year at Kiski school, was voted the most valuable player at the school, and this year is playing football at the University of Michigan. He's a Baldwin graduate.

—o—

Harry Thompson, long-time manager at Bloomfield Hills Country Club, got his first hole-in-one last week, on the ninth hole.

—o—

Some people don't believe everything they hear but they repeat it.

—o—

Birmingham may have an honor roll of men in service to be constructed somewhere in the village. City Manager Don Egbert has been asked by the Commission to plan such a memorial.

—o—

Walnut Lake Men's Club is seeing that no scrap goes unsalvaged in that area. A truck has been picking up material every Sunday and five tons are already collected, going into a pile at Inkster and Walnut Lake roads. . . . A prominent Walnut Lakian, Glenn C. Richards, has quit his post as Civilian Defense coordinator in Detroit to head that city's DPW.

—o—

Coming all the way from California alone and aboard a plane, Beverly English, 9 years old, arrived here early last week to make her home with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Oehm, of Park street. She left the San Francisco airport on Sunday evening and because of weather conditions was forced to spend the night in Denver. The next morning, she came on up to Chicago where there was an unexpected stop-over of several hours, making her nine hours late in arriving. Beverly enrolls as a fifth grader at Adams School. Her mother died recently.

EVERYONE wants something. Cash in on articles which are no longer valuable to you with a want ad.

SCOOP! SCOOP!

The actual filming of the "BATTLE OF MIDWAY" Positively Authentic Starts Friday for Entire Week Extra Added Attraction

BIRMINGHAM THEATRE

SCRAP HARVEST HERE

Birmingham people are asked to start now digging out every bit of waste metal for the big collection which will take place the week beginning Oct. 5, with a contest between the schools planned. Or, you can turn it over to the City the last week of every month.

Interesting Levels

Make a positively unique floor plan the basic theory of this fine home. Consider these points:

Library or rumpus room just 3 steps down from the living room which has an attractive beamed ceiling.

A laundry and lavatory on the same level—practically at grade—*saves steps.*

Six steps up—2 bedrooms, bath between. A few more steps: 2 bedrooms, another bath.

Completely renovated inside and out. Solid masonry construction; designed for discriminating people by D. Allen Wright—well known Detroit architect.

AND LOCATION—well it's just the best, Quarton Lake Estates! Close enough to Maple on Suffield, midway between schools—walk to shop. Buy it and you'll soon forget transportation problems.

SHOWN ANYTIME

SNYDER BUCK & BENNETT INC.

Detroit Phone: Elmhurst 6665 or Birmingham 1400

Home Buying Opportunity

Owners transferred—offering their brick, colonial home at a sacrifice . . . There are four bedrooms, two baths, lavatory, maid's room, screened porch . . . Well landscaped lot, 130 ft. by 135 ft. Insulated storm windows . . . Low taxes . . . Call us for inspection appointment and price . . .

RANCH HOUSE

Nearly new brick, large living room, two light, airy bedrooms, tile bath (stall shower) . . . Oil air-conditioned heat, breeze way to garage . . . Large lot . . . Ideal home for small family . . . Inspection invited . . .

DAVID FITCH REAL ESTATE

139 W. Maple — Phone 1234

Yes—You Can Help Him . . .

. . . and here's how!

Gas is speeding the production of the weapons of war—ships, planes, tanks, guns, shells. As a fuel, Gas is vitally important in winning this war. Lend your help by an economical use of GAS—the Nation's Fuel—on the Home Front.

HERE'S A THREE-POINT PROGRAM FOR ECONOMY CONSERVATION IN YOUR HOME

IN THE KITCHEN . . . Cook the low temperature way that saves Gas and Vitamins. Roast at lower temperatures and reduce meat shrinkage.

IN THE BATH, LAUNDRY AND KITCHEN . . . Repair leaky hot water faucets to save water and Gas. Don't heat more water than you need.

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY