

If Birmingham were located along the Ohio River, and spring floods endangered the safety of our homes here, no doubt every man, woman, and child would do everything possible to fight the rising waters. Well, buying War Bonds and Stamps is fighting the flood of Hitler and Co. So let's pitch in and BUY!

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-SIXTH YEAR—NO. 4

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1943

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Bits of Birmingham

This wanderer saw a robin in the snow Tuesday and he looked as if he had been short-changed.

Another man in the office related that he found a pair of mallard ducks in his front yard, and that they came within a couple of yards to accept food.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Taylor, 4202 Sheridan road, Beverly Hills, now believe completely in the Bible story about manna from heaven. They were getting low on red points last week when out of the sky floated a nice fat wild goose. The goose had been injured by some out-of-season hunter, so the Taylors put it out of its misery and ate it for dinner, with six neighbors enjoying it, too. The goose weighed nearly 14 pounds.

This Wanderer talked with Lloyd "Dutch" Reid Saturday, who, as you know, failed election to the post of State Highway Commissioner. Mr. Reid, being a Birmingham man, was much pleased to note that Birmingham gave him a majority, and added that the luncheon here in his honor, before the election, was just about the best on his whole trip. "I must have been scarting to find out to know that he had the respect and loyalty of the home town people. He still holds office and has not yet decided what job he will take."

The snow and cold are no great incentive to gardening. Incidentally, if you are waiting or the plowman to come, don't get out! The committee says that they are getting around as fast as the time will permit. Later, they will return and cut up the turned earth with the disc, otherwise it would be almost impossible to work land which formerly had been thick sod.

The mobile canteen donated by the Birmingham British War Relief group for use in Birmingham, England, has been accepted by the Lord Mayor of the English metropolis in a letter to the Michigan committee. Although used primarily to feed victims of air raids, they serve other valuable purposes, he declared, and expressed great appreciation for the gift.

Did you know that there are young girls who want to get into Girl Scouting but cannot do so because there are not enough leaders? So, a drive has been started to obtain women over 21 to serve as leaders. Time required is about two hours a week. Mrs. E. F. Brumbaugh, phone 2032, is the commissioner.

If you are housecleaning and decide to throw out clothing, household articles, old magazines, etc., why not phone 4014 and ask the Goodwill Industries to call for them?

A friend in Washington, D. C., sends us a clipping from The Post in which it is revealed that Russell Barnes, former Detroit and Birmingham Newspaper man, will be the new chief of the OWI office at Cairo.

Li. Don Egbert, City manager on leave with the Naval Reserve, is expected home this weekend.

The paragraph in this column last week about the possibility of bringing American-born Japanese here resulted in several phone calls from people who are interested. This Wanderer knows little about the movement except that the Government and church groups are behind the relocation of loyal citizens of Japanese descent so that these people can be put to work at something useful. It was discovered that the Federal Government has assigned a man to Detroit to start the ball rolling, and further information will be printed in The Eccentric as soon as something definite is available. It appears that there is more to the project than the mere mechanical operation of hiring people; the Government must be assured that the community will not make itself inhospitable. One Birmingham Hills family expects to receive a couple this week.

Speeders are still dashing through Birmingham. Harry D. Davis, of Pontiac, was ticketed for doing 60; David H. Thommen, Waterford, for going 55; Francis L. O'Brien, Pontiac, for doing 50; and Wilma Englehart, Pontiac, for traveling 45 miles an hour.

Police records last week told of a 16-year-old boy living on "Dajnes street" picked up for breaking glass. Dajnes is a very short street, and it seems there is but one youth of this age living there, so he was quite upset at being mentioned even in an anonymous way. It should have been Haynes street. We were informed.

Don't forget to put your tin cans and other salvage at the curb for regular city pickup next week.

The Squires Club, composed of high school boys, is staging a "Garden Gate Swing" dance at the Community House May 1. Last week they decided suddenly they don't really have to hustle to so many tickets and make lots of money. Reason? Well, their sign really have to hustle to get a few loose in the wind and broke \$50 worth of neon tubing!

Lee Merton Farr, whose family lived in Birmingham for a number of years, is busily engaged these days in building Liberty ships down New Orleans way. In a note to this Wanderer he states: "I am back at the old gate building Liberty ships for the government. We are proud of our record here, since March, 1942, we have launched 42 Liberty ships, and before the close of 1943 we will have launched and completed 54 more. Recently we were awarded the Maritime 'M' with gold stars. One of our last ships was launched in 39 days, keel laying." Mr. Farr's father used to be president of the American Shipbuilding Co., constructors of many huge Great Lakes vessels. Good luck, Lee—keep ahead of those Axis submarines!

The W. Gardner Masons, who are living at 845 Pierce street in the old Barroughs home, found a mortgage taken out in 1820. They promptly searched for further information and found that it had been taken out by Mr. Mason's grandfather, Capt. Laban Jenks, who came here in 1821 and built the first house west of Rouge River in the township.

Please don't blame (or credit) this Wanderer for the opinion expressed by that unknown, ornery class who phones this department every Tuesday with some diatribe against his fellow man. This week he said: "Don't blame the dogs for their sabotage of your victory garden. They are only acting according to their nature. Blame their irresponsible and unpatriotic owners, most of whom are likely too lazy to put in a victory garden and too selfish to care about their neighbors." No doubt dog-owners who do put in gardens will keep their pets at home.

A letter received by Harold Corson from the Naval Rifle Association relates that, contrary to rumor, the Navy is not interested in buying the guns of civilians.

An upset housewife phoned us: "I made me mad Saturday to see housewives buying seed potatoes for the purpose of eating them. I wonder if people can see how serious it will be if those who want to plant potatoes can't buy any for seed?"

The annual Girl Scout penny drive will be held May 8—or if weather is bad, on the 15th.

Birmingham's fire loss during March jumped to \$4,535.

Robert Pomeroy, one of our linotypers, told us that last year he had the first sweet corn in his neighborhood by planting the seed early. He folded light cardboard into cube shapes, but without top or bottom, and placed them in flats. After the little boxes were filled with earth and planted, they were allowed to sprout indoors and then set out in the field when

JOIN THE BIRMINGHAM PARADE AND BUY MORE WAR BONDS In APRIL!



Security, happiness and comfort are the fruits of Victory. You can help to win that Victory by substantially increasing your purchase of War Bonds. Remember, you aren't GIVING, you are LENDING.

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danger of frost was past. "It worked swell," he said.

Some of the Baldwin High girls now wear their hair in pigtails.

Jake Baumann, Jr., phoned us quite a story about Sammy, a calf born to a cow owned by a friend on Adams road. The story goes: "Little Sammy is no ordinary calf. His mother is a member of that socially prominent family, the Holsteins, and is valued at \$270. Sammy Holstein II, has pedigreed papers a mile long and plans are already being made for his auspicious launching in prep school. Not only that, but Sammy has a godfather. Jake Baumann, Jr. is the doting godparent, busting his best buttons passing out cigars."

We are in receipt of an unsigned letter which would be printed in full if we knew the identity of the writer. She was displeased with the act in the Bondwagon show which had to do with the travels of Eleanor Roosevelt, and further, she did not like the smoking and drinking portrayed in the same show, and she felt that the scenes did not help the problem of juvenile delinquency.

While on a similar subject, we noted this week a report from the State Liquor Control Commission in which it was pointed out that while 85 per cent of liquor fees are returned to the local governmental units, "in enforcement of the liquor laws, it is usual practice, it is used for almost every purpose except that," the chairman said, Oakland County units got \$78,659 yearly in returned fees. The matter comes to mind because it seems logical that State Police or the Sheriff ought to have a special detail to handle violations. For example, a 17-year-old Pontiac boy was arrested in Bloomfield Hills last week for drunk driving, while another Pontiac man, arrested here after a crash, had been here drinking in a blind pig in a nearby city.

Mrs. Elizabeth Calhoun of Birmingham, has been awarded a divorce from Don Calhoun.

O. C. Mills, colored porter living in Bloomfield Hills, has been arrested on the charge of stealing \$42 from a store in Pontiac on April 3. A previous charge of robbery armed was reduced.

Mrs. Evelyn Sheffield, 1244 Humphrey, reported last Thursday that her son, Alvin, age 10 had been nipped by a dog.

The Grand Trunk complained last week that boys were using stones at the 2:12 northbound train.

The City Commission will accept contributions from Lathrup Townships and any others who may want to have a part in placing a picture of the late Ensign Robert W. Uhlmann in the Navy

Dismantle Car In Salvage Bee

By BIRMINGHAM BESS
Dismantling, processing and saving of your salvage sometimes get you "down!" Do you feel that it is really too much bother? Just let me tell you about a group of men who live at Birmingham and what they did last week-end in the cause of salvage. One of these men had an old Ford body with no wheels. He knew that the City disposal trucks couldn't load and cart away such a heavy thing, so he and his neighbors had a big, dismantling and spent several hours reducing this very valuable piece of salvage into moveable pieces. Now does it seem so hard to save a few cans, bottles, rags and rubber scraps to put out next week as your share for this month for salvage in Birmingham?

Yes, Salvage Week has come around again. Starting next Monday, salvagers all over town will be collecting at their separate containers of salvage and putting them out on the proper day for collection. This is the job that our government has asked us 40,000,000 housewives to do conscientiously as an indispensable aid in winning the war.

Another war memorial matter: A Detroit book-making establishment has submitted an estimate of \$100 for a fine leather-bound volume to be placed on a pedestal at the library to contain the names of all service men and women from this district.

S. J. Christie, who is building some brick houses on Pierce street not far from the school road on Monday that water lead-in pipes made of lead had been stolen from an house and the basements left flooded with water.

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