To Birmingham Housewives: Don't Forget Collection Of Tin Cans Today, Friday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday!

In more ways than one, these war days are bringing each of us challenges to be better, more unselfish, men and women. In the degree that we live up to each day's demands will we receive that inner thrill that comes only from a willingness to be a Good Samaritan. We can grow in stature of character now!

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 52 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1943 | $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

Have You Met . . .

Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Wilkinson, of 1030 Glenhurst drive, who moved here a short while ago from Detroit? Mrs. Wilkinson, who has lived in Detroit for 16 years, says they came to Birmingham "to enjoy a little more community life and more outdoors." They have three children, Mary Ann who is 13 and attends Barnum, Bill and Sally, who are 10 and 7 respectively, and are going to Quarton School. Dr. Wilkinson is an eye, nose, and throat specialist in Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Connelly, who bought a lot on Manor road, but haven't been able to build their home so they rented a house across the road to be prepared for being chief cheering section when the house is started after the war? They have a young son, Jimmy, who is 2½ years old. Mr. Connelly is with Detroit Diesel Division of General Motors. They are not exactly strangers to Birmingham, as they have lived in Detroit for many years and have several friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hite, formerly of an apartment in Highland Park, and now of a cozy home in Birmingham on 833 Henrietta? The biggest reason for coming to Birmingham is 7-months-old Nancy Jean. Says Mrs. Hite of her new home-town, "We're crazy about it." Mr. Hite is a radio announcer on station WXYZ.

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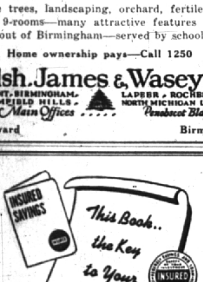

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Bits of Birmingham

Tell all your kin
To spread it thin!

Yes, we mean the butter!

—o—

This Wanderer has an idea (or hopes, anyway) that with the start of rationing, the butter supply will be distributed more fairly and it will be easier to get. Like coffee.

—o—

To stretch our your supply, one housewife suggested that you remove from the refrigerator that portion of your butter supply which is to be used at the next meal (or sandwich-making time. When it's soft, it spreads thinner.

—o—

Does anyone know Miss Mauréene Hoyer, of Birmingham? The Public Relations Bureau at Fort Knox, Ky., informs us that an admirer of Miss Hoyer entered her picture in a contest sponsored by the Armored Force News, and of those published the fifth week, an avalanche of votes selected this "blonde beauty" as best for the week. The weekly winners will then compete for the crown, and the girl who is finally chosen will get a round-trip ticket to visit her boy friend, or $150 in war bonds.

Miss Hoyer's name does not appear in the phone book or city directory, so we have not been able to contact her.

—o—

Whatta scoop! On the front page of one of Detroit's papers last Saturday there appeared the picture of a tank leaping over a pile of logs. This very same shot appeared in Ye Olde Birmingham Eccentric almost one month before.

—o—

Some of our valued readers never have gotten straight the pronunciation of this journal, calling it The Essentric, when in reality, the proper usage is Ek-sentric. (Some people call it still other things when they don't agree with something which has appeared within.) So, we are spurred on by the ambition of doing the best we can, but we are consoled by the fact that you can't please everybody.

—o—

Some time Saturday night, some one walked off with 11 small pictures and one large picture, which were in a display case outside the Birmingham Theatre.

—o—

Spring is BB gun time, and stray shots are causing trouble. Mrs. William Rusch, 1462 Webster, reported to police that her son had been struck in the leg; while Mrs. Forrest Hubert, 1509 Dorchester, likewise reported that her child had been hit. (Theoretically, BB gun shooting is contrary to ordinance.)

—o—

Mrs. Donald T. Stanton reported last Thursday that some one tried to break into their garage at 815 Mohegan.

—o—

The above item reminds this Wanderer to report that Col. Charles T. Stanton, father of the Donald mentioned above, is now at St. Joseph's hospital. In his nineties, and one of Birmingham's finest old residents, he has friends from coast to coast. While not able to get around as he used to, Col. Stanton is feeling fine.

—o—

Some one tried to jimmy the front door of the Spicer home, 343 Fernhdale, last week. There have been several prowler calls, too, indicating that it's smart to keep your car and garage locked. During the winter, there were very few complaints on this score.

—o—

Thieves broke into the McKee South Woodward station last week and stole a small quantity of candy.

—o—

Police Sgt. Delyle Service reports that the underpass at Hunter and Oakland needs a coat of paint to cover up indecent writing on the walls.

—o—

A news release says that some 10 million pounds of smelt will soon be available to alleviate the meat shortage. This Wanderer points out that while smelt are very piebeian fish, they are really delicious when caught fresh and fried in deep fat to a golden, crispy brown! They are not very big, and we recall eating about 20 at one sitting last spring! They had been dipped the night before in the St. Clair river.

—o—

One of the girls in the office said, after taking care of a customer who was enjoying a quantity of gum: "Follow her and see where she gets it!"

—o—

Police Lt. Delyle Service and Patrolman Robert Pepperell went to the rescue of a large dog stranded on the ice in Quarton Lake Thursday morning. Its license was issued to Dr. Merritt J. Pike, 287 Puritan road.

—o—

Here is a bold one: A local woman who phoned a business man's house was greeted on the phone by the maid. She got into conversation with the maid, found she was not working full-time, and then offered her a full-time job at higher wages. Piracy!

—o—

A note in the mail, "Dear Wanderer: Is there anything I can do regarding the loose, running-around-type of dog that abounds in Birmingham? There is so little use attempting to raise a vegetable garden when our perennials are scratched up by hind feet as soon as they show their leaves above the ground. May we appeal to our neighbors to keep all dogs tied up to help the war effort? Good neighbors should start with this, shouldn't they? Thanks. A READER."

—o—

Mrs. Atwood B. Oatman, phone 2072, wonders whether any one found her knitting bag, a taupe-color heavy broadcloth bag with her initials MHO on it in maroon. She lost it a couple of weeks ago when making a dash for the bus at Woodward and Maple.

—o—

Howard Holah, Birmingham Theatre maestro, says the editor ought to come down to see "Hired Aldrich, Editor," and get some ideas about how to run a paper. The film starts Friday along with that Navy picture, "Stand By for Action." Howard also announces a special attraction from Monday through Thursday, the new official color film, "At the Front," showing North African action.

—o—

People seem to like to get things off their chests by communicating with this column. One man called to express his surprise that his family doctor now charges for advice given over the telephone, and also for calling the drug store to give a prescription. He did not like this new practice.

—o—

Milton Mallender, father vice-president of the P.-T. A. Council, reaped the reward of virtue Monday night at Baldwin High when he was the only male to attend the annual election of that body. They raffled off a handsome afghan as a prelude to the meeting, and to the merriment of all, said Milton Mallender produced the winning ticket. His friends thought it a good omen, for as you know, he's a candidate in the April 5 election.

—o—

A new cartoon series starts this week on the editorial page. It is called, "Meet Your Neighbors," and deals with various South American countries.

—o—

They've had quite a fuss in Detroit about AWVS rivalry, but local members assure us that the group here is not affected and that everything here is calm.

—o—

Howard L. Rohr has filed suit for divorce from Mrs. Sarah H. Rohr. Mrs. Emily James, of Bloomfield Hills, has filed suit for divorce from William James.

—o—

That caustic voice phoned again to make this comment:

"Remember—a bond really bought helps more than all you plan to buy." Quite so.

—o—

We heard it said by:

Clyde Wood (at a High Twelve Club meeting at which the high school choir sang): "What a treat to hear those sweet, strong fresh young voices ringing out above the noisy clamor of strife and war."

—o—

What to do about the rabbit nuisance was discussed by the City Commission Monday night, but no solution was reached. It is feared that rabbits will nibble away at the victory gardens.

What Your City Commission Is Doing . . .

March 22, 1943

Bills approved totaling $53,801.08 and including a two week payroll in the amount of $8,222.50.

Resolution adopted recommending appointment of a local rationing panel.

$300 appropriated in connection with expenses incident to the contemplated Memorial for men in service.

Request from the Lions' Club for permission to paint sidewalks in connection with Bondwagon advertising referred to the manager with power to act.

Taxicab ordinance amended reducing P. L. and P. D. insurance to $5,000 and $10,000.

IRENE E. HANLEY,
City Clerk.

NYA Camp Will Teach War Skills

The War Manpower Commission, through the National Youth Administration, gives youths between the ages of 16 and 24 a chance to prepare for war work. This training will include machine shop, aviation mechanics, sheet metal, welding, radio and electricity.

The training center is located at Cassidy Lake, northwest of Chelsea, Mich. It is completely equipped with every modern convenience, including laundry, hospital, warehouse and dining hall.

Each youth taking this training receives $30 per month for work performed in the shops. A deduction of approximately $20 a month is made to defray the cost of food, lodging, medical and dental care and hospitalization.

Vernon B. Kellett Achieves Ph. D. At U. of Michigan

Vernon B. Kellett, of Cranbrook School for Boys, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of philosophy by the University of Michigan. This honor, highly coveted among educators, is the result of many years of graduate study and research. Dr. Kellett was graduated from Harvard University as of 1918 and has since pursued his studies at the Universities of Harvard, Columbia, Michigan and abroad. In 1935 he was awarded the M. A. degree by the University of Michigan.

Not so many years ago most communities in this section of the country were fortunate to have the services if high school graduates for the instruction of their children. Through the advancement of educational standards, the State of Michigan has pioneered to its present high rating in national comparisons.

It is interesting to note that on the Cranbrook School staff of 25 instructors, two have earned doctor's degrees, while 13 have attained master's degrees in their particular fields of study. All are college graduates and constantly seeking added knowledge to better equip themselves to inspire the boys to a greater interest in study and human understanding.

New Books at Baldwin

Freedom Has Its Price

HAPPY LAND, by Mackinlay Kantor. Coward-McCann, Inc.

When you open this little book (it's only 92 pages) you read the first two lines of "Hail Columbia" that are the key of the story following:

Hail, Columbia, Happy land!
Hail ye heroes, heav'n-born band—

They thrilled me as they would any American in these insecure days, for we are indeed the present possessors of a "happy land."

You'll remember MacKinlay Kantor best, perhaps, for his "Voice of Bugle Ann." He's always been a good story teller, but here than that, he writes in a homely, down-to-earth style that should appeal to any background.

Lew and Agnes, with their son, Rusty, pharmacist's mate, USN, could be your family or mine; time—present; scene—a midwestern town. Rusty is the only child they have. Letters ceased to come and six weeks rolled by. Then comes the telegram from the government announcing Rusty's death, while in the service of his country. Lew had served in the last war, as had his father in the generation preceding. They survived; why could not his son have? Why? Why? Why?

It takes Lew quite a while to come back to life in Hartfield as he had been accustomed to living it, but his mind slowly adjusts itself.

With the visit of Rusty's orphan friend, Tony Cavrik, home on leave, who had been on the torpedoed ship with Rusty, Lew finds new inspiration for life. Here was Tony, who had never had the simple pleasures of a home and parents that Lew had been able to give Rusty. Wasn't this a democracy? Here was someone who needed all the things that we held dear, the things that were free.

Lew drank a toast with Tony, as he would have with Rusty, and you knew he pitched in next day to carry on.

LUCILE W. ROEHM (Mrs. H. R.)

Waste Fat Drive Started in City; Seek 3,000 Pounds

By BIRMINGHAM BESS

If we were subjects of the Third Reich we would all be forced to put in our kitchen sinks a new sort of trap which would catch all the waste fats that come into our dish water.

We would have informers searching our homes to see that we were not hiding any hoarded fats anywhere in our houses. We would be painfully limited in the amount of fats we would be allowed for cooking, and we would further be severely limited in the amount of soap, which is made from fats, that we might have for the use of our families. And that would all make us MAD, for we are not used to being watched and limited and forced to open up our cupboards to uniformed snoopers.

Needs Explained

Since, instead, we are citizens of a free republic, we are taken into the confidence of the powers that be, and the needs of the government are explained to us along with the alternatives if we do not respond properly. We are trusted like, free mature people that we are; and put on our honor to do the things that are expected of us. The Government says to us, "For explosives we must save and turn in through the butchers of the community every possible ounce of kitchen waste fat strained and in a tin or cardboard container. You will be paid for this fat.

"The quota that we expect from you is about a pound for each family every month. And it must keep coming every month that the war continues if we are to have the explosives needed to win the war."

Now that we know what is expected of us as citizens who enjoy this sort of a Government, nothing remains for us but to keep ourselves constantly on the alert that we do that thing and do not become weary and slow up our effort. In, no other way can the war be won. You remember that the Declaration of Independence says, "We mutually pledge to each other." That means that what we do as a country we do together, mutually for each other.

Birmingham's Record

Perhaps you will like to know what Birmingham has been doing in the salvage of fats. Dominic Caputo, who is chairman of this collection for all the stores in town, reports that in January we brought in 2,706 pounds, and in February, a shorter month, the amount was 2,559 pounds. This is not up to the quota of a pound a family but it is a lot of waste fats. There are about 3,000 families in town.

It is also of interest to know that one pound of fat saved means 1.3 lbs. of gun powder, which fires four 37mm. anti-aircraft shells.

Today starts a nation-wide drive for more fats. Birmingham is such a prosperous town, we should be able to collect more than our quota to make up for some other community where things are not going so well.

Today also starts the last week in the month for tin can collection. Be sure that your clean, flat, dry, tin cans are out on the curb for the City truck to collect them on your regular collection day. We mustn't waste a single one.

P.-T. A.

P.-T.A. Council

The Council of the Parent-Teacher's Association met Monday evening at Baldwin High School for election of officers. Mrs. Stanley Spiegel presided at the meeting.

The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year: president, Mrs. Norman A. Porter; mother vice-president, Mrs. Leo J. Flynn; father vice-president, Merle P. Bailey; teacher vice-president, Miss Rhoda Densmore; secretary, Mrs. G. E. Carson, treasurer, Mrs. E. K. Schadt; and historian, Mrs. R. M. Ball.

A discussion followed in which a motion was carried to support the recreation program financially to the fullest possible extent.

Suggestion

Let's see if we can't find a place elsewhere in public affairs for Eddie Flynn—say a United States consul to John L. Lewis.—Detroit News.

Book Nelson Eddy For Detroit Concert Thursday, April 8

Nelson Eddy, called by Variety Magazine America's No. 1 Box Office Draw," would rather sing than do anything else in the world. The baritone who sings in concert, over the radio, in motion pictures, and on recordings will appear at Masonic auditorium on Thursday evening, April 8.

During the past year Eddy has found a new audience of fans—the soldiers, sailors, aviators, and marines of the United States to whom he has been singing at army camps, naval stations, and flying fields throughout the country.

In fact, Eddy gives all his spare time these days to the war. As an American home-owner in Brentwood Heights, Calif., he became an air-raid warden as soon as the war broke out and annually raises a large garden which he personally tends.

In addition to the camp concerts, Nelson Eddy has done short wave broadcasts to Latin America, and has been appointed by the Office of War Information to the Committee of Twenty-Five which was established to coordinate the major radio shows with the war effort.

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Local Furrier Makes Vests for Sailors

George Dimas, furrier, has been contributing his own time and effort for the past several months in collecting furs and making them into vests for the men of the Merchant Marine.

Several vests are finished and ready for shipment and Mr. Dimas invites people to see the finished garments and others in process. He also asks that anyone interested in the project may contribute any kind of fur piece to be made into a vest.

Grocer Arrested On Assault Count

William Sherman, East Maple avenue grocer pleaded not guilty when arraigned before Justice Forbes S. Hascall Monday morning on a charge of assault and battery. Trial was set for next Monday at 1:30 p.m.

The complaining witness, Roy B. Walborn, of 890 Henrietta, charges that Sherman forcibly ejected him from his store on Saturday, March 13.

—Buy a Bond Dated Dec. 7!—

In the Quarton Colony . . $9850

Compact, attractive, modern and efficient; you'll like this Colonial home a lot. Built in 1938, it's quiet—sheltered location at the foot of a dead-end street gives adequate protection to the small family.

Quarton School is four short blocks away—so are stores and the bus line. An enormous willow tree and a congenial neighborhood complete the picture. We suggest an inspection appointment at once.

A Fine Opportunity

To secure a neatly new Farm Colonial home is yours for the asking. The price is bound to convince you, too, in case there could be any doubt in your mind.

Four fine bedrooms and three baths, lots of closet room on the second floor. On the first: a library with fireplace; dining room with corner cupboards and panelled detail around the room. Fine center hall, 2 coat closets; modern kitchen and breakfast room. The basement is one of the best and most completely useful in town.

School, transportation, and everything for economical living is answerable here.

(Shown by Appointment)

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