

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

Many People Think So... (And Some Otherwise)

By Frank E. Bogart

With all due regard for those who conduct institutes and forums upon the problems of peace, whose multifold programs and projects have not been able to assimilate, will present this week the views of Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court and let them speak for themselves. Justice Douglas:

"We should not forget that every other nation knows more about its own troubles and problems than we do or ever can. No matter how high our ideals or virtues, we can hardly qualify as managers of the affairs of other nations. What may be good for them may be anathema to us or vice versa. The history and traditions of people vary throughout the world. Each must work out its own destiny. We should let others have the same free choice which we reserve for ourselves."

"We cannot force other countries to act as we wish or to emulate our way of life. But if America continues to be a country 'world following,' she will be followed. If our standard of life and our respect for the individual and his freedom are to keep the American people, they will inevitably awaken similar desires in other lands."

While others talk of our participation in a "world police force," to make the rest of the world behave, Justice Douglas offers this suggestion: "Liberties cannot be forced upon people. But we can kindle the imagination of the citizens of other countries with the idea that they would do well to achieve such liberties for themselves. After all, nothing succeeds like success. . . . In the era now ending we have been the inspiration of the world, the symbol of progress even to the most progressive countries. To keep the American tradition alive, we must continue as the trail blazer of the world in the age now dawning."

CART BEFORE HORSE? I don't think anyone can disagree much with Justice Douglas's philosophy. He is certainly a Liberal. Perhaps we have put the cart before the horse in presenting Justice Douglas before General John J. Pershing, whose views notwithstanding the war in Europe should be borne in mind at this time. I will quote from an article by Clifford A. Prevost, Washington correspondent:

"I don't think anyone can disagree much with Justice Douglas's philosophy. He is certainly a Liberal. Perhaps we have put the cart before the horse in presenting Justice Douglas before General John J. Pershing, whose views notwithstanding the war in Europe should be borne in mind at this time. I will quote from an article by Clifford A. Prevost, Washington correspondent:

"I don't think anyone can disagree much with Justice Douglas's philosophy. He is certainly a Liberal. Perhaps we have put the cart before the horse in presenting Justice Douglas before General John J. Pershing, whose views notwithstanding the war in Europe should be borne in mind at this time. I will quote from an article by Clifford A. Prevost, Washington correspondent:

"I don't think anyone can disagree much with Justice Douglas's philosophy. He is certainly a Liberal. Perhaps we have put the cart before the horse in presenting Justice Douglas before General John J. Pershing, whose views notwithstanding the war in Europe should be borne in mind at this time. I will quote from an article by Clifford A. Prevost, Washington correspondent:

"I don't think anyone can disagree much with Justice Douglas's philosophy. He is certainly a Liberal. Perhaps we have put the cart before the horse in presenting Justice Douglas before General John J. Pershing, whose views notwithstanding the war in Europe should be borne in mind at this time. I will quote from an article by Clifford A. Prevost, Washington correspondent:

Something Is Wrong

It requires no mental wizardry to observe that the social and economic organization of a nation which has banished unemployment only through participation in war.

The United States, like Great Britain, has had no peacetime employment for all people. Both occasions were production booms for the waste and loss of conflict. In between, the United States went through the amazing paradox of want amid plenty. The aftermath of this economic debacle was a system of drastic controls, which by eliminating surpluses, restored something of order to a chaotic economic existence.

Naturally, there are individuals who ask why it is not possible for a nation to provide full employment for its working population without war's disaster. They wonder whether the same driving force can be stimulated in peaceful years and utilized to provide more things for more people.

Falls Five Stories Most people falling from the roof of a five-story apartment building, would be fatally injured, but Mrs. Claire Friedman, the 31-year-old resident of New York, recently made such a plunge without serious injury.

Newspaper accounts say that the woman landed in the soft earth of a seven-foot garden plot in the middle of a concrete yard, picked herself up and brushed off her clothes. She was taken to a hospital and is expected to recover.

We dare say that 'ninety-nine out of one hundred persons, falling from such a height, would have been killed. How then, can one explain the escape of Mrs. Friedman? Undoubtedly, there will be some to consider it a miraculous dispensation of divine providence, but others will be satisfied that it represents nothing more than the vagary of chance.

THE LONGER WE OBSERVE THE ACTIVITIES OF DR. DWIGHT B. IRELAND, supt. of schools here, the more we are impressed with his energy. He is an able administrator and an administrator. The problem of meeting the emergency demands in a school system today are more difficult than at any time in the life of Birmingham's educational system.

THE OTHER DAY WALTER WINCHELL SAID IN his column, that all telephone calls going into Washington, D. C., are recorded. We presume this is to detect various types of unparliamentary and/or skulljagery conversation, during war times. Here, however, is a good chance for a Congressional committee to investigate the extravagance expended by bureaucrats—how wonderful to be able to project in Congress some of the idle or trivial chatter of some of the boys and girls who use long distance as though it were a local call.

enemy who must be exterminated. There is no comparison between this man's fate and that of Capt. Collin Kelly. Capt. Kelly met his death while in the act of completing a mission while the unknown American or Australian flier was the victim of outright murder.

There are very few people on this continent or Australia who doubt the story of this flier or any other atrocity story coming out of the Pacific. Any one who has spent any time studying the Japanese methods is not surprised at anything they will stoop to in the way of brutality, so in my opinion keeping the flier's name unknown simply increases the personal aspect by 130 or 40 million.

Probably the easiest way of identifying those who doubt the story of this flier or any other atrocity story coming out of the Pacific. Any one who has spent any time studying the Japanese methods is not surprised at anything they will stoop to in the way of brutality, so in my opinion keeping the flier's name unknown simply increases the personal aspect by 130 or 40 million.

Probably the easiest way of identifying those who doubt the story of this flier or any other atrocity story coming out of the Pacific. Any one who has spent any time studying the Japanese methods is not surprised at anything they will stoop to in the way of brutality, so in my opinion keeping the flier's name unknown simply increases the personal aspect by 130 or 40 million.

More Deadly Than War

The casualty lists that come from the war front impress upon us the fact that men are being killed and wounded in the fight for our continued existence as a free people.

While we are appalled at the sacrifice of young men engaged in war, few of us realize that more Americans are killed or wounded in accidents than in war operations. In 1942, 93,000 persons were killed and 9,300,000 persons were injured from accidents in the United States. In 1941, 101,500 persons were killed by accidents.

In fact, motor vehicles alone have caused the death of more Americans since Pearl Harbor than the war. In 1942, they were responsible for 27,800 deaths, but this figure was a thirty per cent reduction from the 40,000 casualties for 1941.

The nation is spending billions of dollars to supply fighting men with ample equipment in order to avoid unnecessary casualties, and people throughout the United States are sobered by the thought of young men slain in battle. While no one would suggest that money is not wisely spent to protect our soldiers and sailors, it appears that some money and some effort might be directed to the elimination of accidental deaths.

The average American hardly realizes that in the four years immediately preceding the war, 385,813 total motor vehicle accidents accounted for the death of 139,469. The war toll, grievous as it is, is not the greater hazard to long life.

Cooperation The progress of civilization depends upon the cooperation of human beings but it is essential to understand the necessity that the cooperation be voluntary and not compulsory.

Voluntary cooperation, based upon the free will of individuals, represents permanent gains for society. Compulsory cooperation, regardless of the pressure that enforces it, inevitably creates individual dissatisfaction and will be dissipated whenever the pressure is lifted.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in The Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 111 and 112.

Subscription Rates: (In Oakland County) One Year \$2.00, Six Months \$1.25, Three Months .75. All newspapers and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama.

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief obituary material providing it has news value, and suggestions are welcomed. Contributions should be in the form of a letter to the editor, and should be accompanied by a photograph of the deceased, if possible. The Eccentric will not be held responsible for the return of material not published.

What Your City Commission Is Doing . . . October 18, 1943. No bills presented for payment. Assessor's report on the 236 coverage improvement of Webster Avenue.

Hearing set for November 1st to consider changing name of London Street between Hunter and Adams. Sidewalk ordered repaired on Euclid Avenue.

Ordinance adopted prohibiting the burning of materials on or adjacent to public streets where surface of street consists of asphaltic petroleum or bituminous mixture. IRENE E. HANLEY, City Clerk.

Here's How Service Flag First Came Into General Use

Who first thought of the blue-starred or gold-starred, red-lined rectangle of cloth that tells its proud story in millions of American windows today? The answer is to be found in the current issue of the Rotarian magazine, which reveals that the service flag was originated back in 1917 by R. L. Quiesner, then a captain in the Fifth Regiment, Ohio Infantry of the Pacific.

Captain Quiesner's idea caught the popular fancy at once, finding official sanction as the City of Cleveland and many other municipalities declared in favor of its use, while the state of Ohio shortly followed suit. A one-time member of Cleveland's Rotary club, the originator of the service flag died several years ago.

Ghosts



Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO Oct. 19, 1893. Farmington will have a lecture course this winter. Birmingham 'Kaiser' Billy is now making faces at the Berlin town council because it had the nerve to refuse to provide a public expense.

100 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1843. Birmingham was a small town of about 100 people. The first school was opened in 1843. The first newspaper was published in 1843.

20 YEARS AGO Oct. 19, 1923. Please tell the people of Birmingham and nearby that this is the season of the year when rubber tires on our fire trucks are given the most thorough attention.

5 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1938. With the roll of 1900 new members for Birmingham, the local women are canvassing for the Red Cross in the annual Roll Call which is now in progress.

7 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1936. The people of Birmingham are evidently in a better mood than they have been in several years, according to a statement issued this morning by Village Treasurer Charles Plumstead.

10 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1933. The people of Birmingham are evidently in a better mood than they have been in several years, according to a statement issued this morning by Village Treasurer Charles Plumstead.

15 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1928. The people of Birmingham are evidently in a better mood than they have been in several years, according to a statement issued this morning by Village Treasurer Charles Plumstead.

20 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1923. Please tell the people of Birmingham and nearby that this is the season of the year when rubber tires on our fire trucks are given the most thorough attention.

25 YEARS AGO Oct. 20, 1918. Please tell the people of Birmingham and nearby that this is the season of the year when rubber tires on our fire trucks are given the most thorough attention.



Miss Barrymore At Cass, Detroit

An opportunity to watch Ethel Barrymore in one of the finest roles she has ever enacted, that of a Welsh school teacher who sought an opportunity to instill in the younger generation an appreciation of art and a desire for some of the better things in life would be the high spot of the theatrical season.

Theresa Moore now have such an opportunity. She will perform through Oct. 30, at the Cass Theater, Detroit, when the truly "Great Lady" of the American theater is playing Elnys Williams' fine play, "The Corn is Her Green."

It is her second trip to Detroit in this vehicle. Miss Barrymore is not a showy role in any sense of the word but it gives full play to her ample range in character drawing. And this is not a play for the moralists alone. It contains some of the finest comedy imaginable, and, in fact, strums the whole scale of human emotions.

The production, from Shumlin, has surrounded the star with a cast that is perfection from first to last. For the two weeks after this engagement, Nov. 1-14, Katharine Cornell will present her new play, "Friends and Lovers," another of "Call it a Day" and "Autumn Crocus."

"She's very clever. She learned to play the piano in no time." "Yes, I've noticed she does."

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner. Natural lighting from windows adds an artistic touch and appeal to pictures.

USUALLY sunlight pictures are made out-of-doors, but have you ever thought of looking indoors for sunny picture opportunities? There's a marvelous field and one, I think, that has been neglected.

Whenever sunshine comes through a window or illuminates a corner of the room, there is opportunity for a sunshine picture. Just a subject in this sunlit corner—for example, a small girl playing with her dolls, or a boy playing with his toys.

Object just at the bottom, or end, of the sunbeam so that the shaft of light leads to it, and then take the picture, you will be pleased with the result. In making these pictures, take care to give an exposure (full enough to pick up some detail) in the shadows.

SALVAGE MEMO

TIN CANS—Rinse after using, remove label, open bottom end and flatten with foot. Place at curb for last City collection day of the 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.

RUBBER METALS, GLASS, RUBBER—Leave in bin near Post Office or put at curb on your last City collection day of the month. Copper engraving plates and old keys may be left at the library.

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES—You can donate these to Salvation Army, which will call for them. Phone 4014. Scrap paper wanted!

PECK'S Cash and Carry

Suits, Topsuits, Plain Dresses, CLEANED and PRESSED For Delivery Service. WOODWARD—NEAR MAPLE

A FRIENDLY BANK

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

Pay By Check!

Cancelled checks afford the safety of a receipt for each bill paid—and your check stubs detail each expenditure. Open a Pay-As-You-Go Checking Account with as little as \$1.00. No minimum balance required.

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

People's Column

Birmingham, Mich., Oct. 15, 1943. To the Editor: Just how revealing the identity of the flier going to create more hatred for the Jap than keep the identity unknown? In my opinion the State and War Department are handling this story about the best they possibly can.

If it became known that the flier was Lt. Bill Jones from Mobile Ala., then all Mobile and most of the state of Alabama would regard the Jap as personal foe, however the rest of the country would go back to regarding him as a political enemy.

As it is, practically everyone knows some boy who has lost his life in the Pacific and thus has the combined population of Australia plus the United States considering Mr. Jap as a personal enemy who must be exterminated.

TICKLERS

By HAYES. Who first thought of the blue-starred or gold-starred, red-lined rectangle of cloth that tells its proud story in millions of American windows today?



Have You Albert?

Mr. and Mrs. Albert T. Arnold, who have come to Birmingham from Springfield, Mass., and are now residing in 1718 1/2 Lincoln. The Arnolds have been here for about a month. They moved here due to the fact that their wife is with the National Automobile Parts Association. Their daughter, Mary, attends Skidmore College at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.