

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

Michigan Mirror

GAYLORD - "Holy Mackinac! So you think this 1944 summer is hot and dry? Hm? " "Old Eagle Eye" Jim Bunyon, the same old spindle-legged tobacco-chewing printer of yore, squinted through his spectacles as he snorted. The tone of his voice was enough to indicate an old-timer's scorn.

"We hadn't encountered Jim since we visited Aladstone last August, we were surprised to find him, busy at his printer's trade, at the office of Paul Macdonald's Tawas County Herald-Times here. En route to a publisher's meeting at Sault Ste. Marie, from whence next week's Mirror will be written, we pause for a minute while Jim unfolded the story.

"I was just a youngster, that summer of 1871. Pappy was working in a sawmill at Alpena, and I was being sent on a pig of Kentucky. There's never been a town in Michigan so burned out as Alpena. Back in 1867, the slash in the cut-over lands caught on fire, and flames raced along Thunder Bay river, burning out the big sawmill of Lockwood and Minor. Alpena was left a smoking ruin.

"Alpena folks built her up this Oct. 8, 1871 fire. Pappy returned in Alpena in 1869. By the year of 1871, Alpena lumberjacks were kinda getting lonesome. The town hadn't burned for two years, and life was almost in a rut.

"That big fire of 1871 came after a long, dry summer. The sun shows day after day, and nary a cloud appeared in the sky. Crops were parched, and by the time of Sunday, Oct. 8, the whole northern country was crisp as tinder.

"Holland was the first town to be hit by forest fire, fanned by a high wind. The Hope College town was pretty near razed to the ground. College buildings were in smoldering ruins, and 75 business houses were cleaned out. At Marquette, some 150 miles north of Holland, the fire jumped to the woods Sunday afternoon and it destroyed 206 houses.

"I'm guessing the Michigan Aggie students turned out and saved the state capital. Yes, sure! And the entire county the single mile of George Rockwell, Collier & Garber, and Reardon & Anderson, laid waste. Grated, county, was badly hit, while flames raced through the entire Saginaw valley from St. Charles to Birch Run.

"And up in the Thumb! Why the forest fire on that same Sunday, Oct. 8, back in 1871, destroyed a lot of bustling towns, such as Sand Beach, Huron City, Elm

"Michigan, once a lumber-producing state, has become a great industrial empire, world-famous for its automobiles and furniture and other products. Its north country is becoming more and more, the beautiful haven for vacation-seeking city dwellers from cities throughout the mid-west.

"It was when the hot and dry summers appear, a few careless natives, such as Jim Bunyon, scan the clouds and forest fires were something to tell your grandchildren about.

"I almost forgot to tell you about Jim Bunyon's grand-pappy. He was a Michigan lumberjack whose stature was befitting such a great state. Yep, his first name was Paul.

"A booklet, 'Home Repair and Modernization,' is intended to help the home owner go over all parts of his house, inside and out, and make a record of repairs and improvements that should be made. Copies are available from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington 25, D.C.

"The laughable shadows of Wilkins and his Dinah will appear at Archway Hall next Tuesday. Any one having the music for the song will confer a great favor on the Society by leaving it at the office."

"Mr. Harry Simpson and wife, of Bad Ax, are spending a few days in town. Our boys and girls are scattered all over the country and it does us good to have them come back to the dear old town, again."

"First grand Sunday school rally under the auspices of the U. S. Co. U. S. Association of all Sunday schools in the county at Orchard Lake, August 13, 1944."

"Under the direction of David H. Ladd, of Madison avenue, a former resident of Milford, Michigan, an attempt will be made Thursday morning to get together many Birminghamites as possible to attend the annual Oakland County Fair at Milford."

"Joe Sales, in good running order, the Bug-Eaters, and hose and chemical truck. Apply 'Hedge' Manager, Birmingham, Michigan. This being inserted free of charge by the Eccentric, in the hope that the faithful old Bug-Eaters and heroine of countless fires in Birmingham and vicinity will find a proper home, which is to spend the remainder of its whirling days."

"The police, Sunday went through the quiet streets taking up four animals, leaving a dog for a short while in the network of iron rails, familiarly called

Local Post-War Development

"Whether goes it post-war days? ... may be the slogan to be adopted here by everyone interested in the best type of development for this community.

Accepting the general belief that after the war, Birmingham and vicinity will enter upon an era of building growth, with its attendant increase in population, this community faces numerous problems; among them are, of course, the need for visioning an increase in various physical services, including water, pavements, sewers, and the school system. Any development of such, however, public services do bring up the problem of financing them.

Another, to be sure, city and school officials have compiled some data on these subjects: what needs to be done, further, is to bring these various agencies together with a group of responsible and interested citizens.

One phase of the financial problem confronting Birmingham, (and also other communities in the United States), is this: Shall each community seek to pay, through its own resources, for future physical growth, or shall each try to get whatever finances it can from the federal government, thus using its own and Washington's resources to pay the bills?

Personally, we know that Birmingham would rather depend upon itself for funds; perhaps other communities in the U.S.A. would like to do the same; but the realistic fact is that Washington, the Great Santa Claus, will manage to have plenty of money to toss about the nation, and, since Birmingham taxpayers will help to provide those funds, why shouldn't Birmingham get some of the money back?

That's the stark truth, of course - even though it contains many civic and economic evils. So, we believe that Birmingham leaders ought to have a meeting this fall, perhaps in late September, to formulate post-war plans regarding our physical development. Don't you, too, agree?

Dr. E. Stanley Jones

Dr. E. Stanley Jones, world famous Methodist missionary to India, asserts that "fifty to eighty-five per cent of diseases are mental and spiritually induced."

He says that physician friends have said that the state of one's mind affects one's glands. This is a fact of extreme importance in the study of health. It is generally accepted, we believe, by laymen.

Dr. Jones says that "the right way morally is also the healthy way physically." He suggests that when we become spiritually right we will be physically right.

While there may be some differences of opinion as to the connection between the mind and physical ill, there can be no denial that there is some relationship. (The stimulating effect of certain emotions, upon physical powers, is familiar to us all.

"The local jail, then returning to court, will result in 60 boys of this community being guests of owner Walter O. Briggs when the Tigers play the St. Louis team in Detroit Friday afternoon, August 11."

"When Birmingham holds its annual election next spring, eight automatic voting machines will be in use in the five precincts, thus minimizing the delay in counting."

"Public demonstration of the summer activities in the Barnum pool will be given Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock, according to word received from the Recreation Committee members this week."

"After a most successful year, the Birmingham Community House closed last Tuesday, August 1st, and will be reopened September 4th during which time the House will be cleaned and portions of the interior painted and some upholstery work completed."

"Have You Met Mr. and Mrs. James S. McDaniel of 320 Fairfax Avenue? Combined efforts of Mrs. John F. Ryan, director of Birmingham's summer recreation program, and Howard D. Crull, superintendent of

Describes Nazi Devilment

The Archbishop of York, one of the leading English clergymen, says that Germany adopted the deliberate policy of enslavement and degradation to accomplish three ends in Occupied Europe:

"To supply itself with munitions of war, to obtain food for Germany, and to weaken the people of occupied countries so that they will be less capable of revolt."

The church leader says that the results "are hunger and disease on a gigantic scale." He reports that in Poland, however, the children are kept healthy to the age of four "when they are taken from their mothers and sent to Germany to be raised as Germans."

The British clergyman, who visited Moscow last year, says that within Germany are millions of foreign workers and that "women have been flogged and tortured and from Poland and Russia they have been deported to serve in German brothels." Moreover, he adds, that everything he has said "can be proven to the hilt."

HENRY A. WALLACE, the crossing-reformer Vice-President, is about to enter that limbo designated, eventually, for most politicians. We admire Henry's personal courage, and always will; basically, he is too nice a man for practical politics, the loss of his fight for re-nomination to Senator Truman again proves that there is no eternal security in dealing with a mob.

WHEN A FRIEND OF OURS RECENTLY LEARNED that the July 1 War Manpower Commission regulation "freezes" in their present jobs all employees on payrolls of eight or more people, regardless of the nature of the activity they are in, he exclaimed: "Why, that is slavery!" Yes, perhaps it is - slavery to the needs of winning this war. In the same sense, however, all members of the armed forces are "slaves" for the duration and six months after. Such controls are part of the price of fighting for freedom, aren't they?

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions providing information on subjects of general interest. Contributions are usually edited informally or they may be given thorough editorial treatment if you prefer. Any erroneous correction upon the character, spelling or punctuation of any article, if it appears in the columns of The Eccentric will gladly appear upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

5 YEARS AGO August 3, 1939 "At a local meeting and election of officers of the Birmingham Student Loan Fund Association, held last Friday night, Mrs. Robert W. Chasny, of 148 Chester drive, was elected president for the coming year."

"Combined efforts of Mrs. John F. Ryan, director of Birmingham's summer recreation program, and Howard D. Crull, superintendent of

local public schools, will result in 60 boys of this community being guests of owner Walter O. Briggs when the Tigers play the St. Louis team in Detroit Friday afternoon, August 11."

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Cost Of Schools Is Disclosed In 1944 Statement

In his recent annual report to the Birmingham School District, Superintendent Dwight B. Ireland included a summary of operating costs for the several departments for the past school year. This did not include sums set aside for the bonded debt, interest, boiler fund and other items of similar nature nor sums set aside for other improvements.

The figures from the report follow:

General Control: Salaries - \$1,250,000; Expenses - \$275,000; Publication of Minutes - \$25,000; Superintendent of Schools - \$75,000; Salary - \$420,000; Clerk - \$100,000; Business Manager - \$40,000; Epistola - \$10,000; Clerical Salary - \$100,000; Central and Election - \$10,000; Expenses - \$10,000; 1944 B. M. Bonds - \$10,000; Legal Service - \$5,000.

Instructional Service: Superintendent's Salary - \$2,200,000; Principals' Salaries - \$500,000; Expenses - \$70,000; Textbooks - \$100,000; Substitute Teachers - \$2,000,000; Salaries - \$1,000,000; School Supplies for pupils - \$2,000,000; School Supplies for Teachers - \$1,000,000; Corporation Sponsors - \$100,000; School - \$1,000,000; Miscellaneous - \$100,000.

School Plant Operation: Chief Engineer's Salary - \$100,000; Janitor - \$100,000; Fuel - \$1,000,000; Water - \$1,000,000; Light and Power - \$2,000,000; Telephone - \$100,000; Soap and Laundry - \$100,000; Miscellaneous - \$100,000; Automobile Expense - \$100,000.

Fixed Charges: Insurance - \$2,114,000; Short Term Loan Interest - \$100,000; Depreciation - \$1,000,000; Maintenance: Repair of Automobiles - \$250,000; Repair of Buildings - \$2,000,000; Repair of Equipment - \$100,000; Repair of Other Systems - \$100,000; Repair of Telephone - \$100,000; Repair and Replacement of Miscellaneous Equipment - \$100,000.

Capital Outlay: Site of Buildings - \$1,000,000; New Buildings - \$1,000,000; New Equipment - \$1,000,000; New Furniture - \$1,000,000; New Automobiles - \$1,000,000; Miscellaneous - \$1,000,000.

Auxiliary: School Library Expense - \$100,000; School Lunch - \$100,000; Health Service - \$100,000; Transportation - \$100,000; Attendant Dept. Salary - \$100,000; Expenses - \$100,000.

Summary: General Control - \$1,600,000; Instructional Service - \$10,000,000; School Plant Operation - \$10,000,000; Fixed Charges - \$1,000,000; Capital Outlay - \$1,000,000; Auxiliary Activities - \$1,000,000; Total - \$22,600,000.

Well, Well, a Recruit for Our Side



RATIONING AT A GLANCE

July 31, 1944 Sugar - Stamps 30, 31 and 32. Book 4, valid for five pounds in Stamp 40, Book 4, good for five pounds for rationing purposes through Feb. 28, 1945.

Spare stamp 37 good for canning sugar. Apply at book. Processed Food - Blue A-8 through Z-8 and A-5 valid indefinitely. B-5 through P-5 valid August 1.

Meats and Fats - Red A-8 through Z-8 valid indefinitely and A-3 through C-3. Used Fats - Each pound of water fat is good for two meat units to gallons. Period 1, 2 and 3. Book 3, good for one pair each indefinitely.

Gasoline - A-1 valid for three gallons through Sept. 21. Fuel Oil - Period 3 and C-4 good for five gallons each. Fuel Oil - Period 4 and C-5 good units valid through Sept. 30. Book 5, valid for one gallon of new series, now valid.

The Inspectors - Commercial Vehicle - every six months or 5,000 miles, whichever is first.

Notice of Special Township Meeting and Election

WHEREAS, at a meeting of the Township Board of the Township of Bloomfield, Oakland County, Michigan, held on the 10th day of July, 1944, a franchise ordinance was adopted, entitled as follows:

AN ORDINANCE, granting to CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to lay, maintain and erect gas mains, pipes, and services on, along, across and under the public highways, streets, alleys, bridges and other public places, and to do a local gas business in the TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

WHEREAS, said Consumers Power Company has heretofore filed its written application of said franchise, and has requested that the question of confirming the grant thereof be submitted to the qualified electors of the Township, at a special election to be held for that purpose, and has also paid to the Township Board the estimated expense of holding such special election; and

WHEREAS, there has been heretofore filed with said Board, a petition signed by at least twelve electors, requesting that a special township meeting and election be called for such purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of such resolution, notice is hereby given that a special meeting and election will be held in said Township at

on Friday, the 8th day of September, 1944, for the purpose of voting on the confirmation of the action of said Township Board in granting such franchise.

The polls of said election will be opened at 7 o'clock in the forenoon, and as soon thereafter as may be, and will be held open until 8 o'clock A. M., Eastern War Standard Time. The Township Clerk will be in his office on the 19th day of August, 1944, said date being the twentieth day preceding the date of said election, for the purpose of reviewing the registration, and registering such of the qualified electors of the Township as shall appear and apply therefor, which registration may be made on said date, between the hours of 8 o'clock A. M. and 8 o'clock P. M.

Said franchise is granted by said Board, in file with the undersigned Township Clerk for the purpose of inspection by the qualified electors.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD. MYRNA L. SMITH, Deputy Township Clerk. Dated: 7-10-1944

SALVAGE MEMO

TIN CANS - Rinse after using, remove label, open bottom 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.

SCRAP METALS, GLASS, RUBBER - Leave in your last city collection day of the month. Copper engraving plates and old keys were left at the library.

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, SCRAP PAPER - Pick-up of these may be arranged for by calling the Salvage Desk, at the Municipal Building, Phone 1230 between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 o'clock, Monday through Fridays. Regular city curb pickup first Friday of each month.

"A FRIENDLY BANK"

WABECK 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.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO "Considerable correspondence crowded out this week."

"The weather was very bad, with strong winds, and our camping friends, 'Don't forget the lawn social at James Todd's tomorrow (Friday) night, given by the Lady Macaides."

"Mrs. Eades has consented to sing once more for the Library before her removal to Port Huron."

"Pink Lake is booming now with campers and families. The jolly campers at this lake."

"If you have never been to the L.O.T.M. social, don't miss going tomorrow night. Sure to have a good time."

"The laughable shadows of Wilkins and his Dinah will appear at Archway Hall next Tuesday. Any one having the music for the song will confer a great favor on the Society by leaving it at the office."

"Mr. Harry Simpson and wife, of Bad Ax, are spending a few days in town. Our boys and girls are scattered all over the country and it does us good to have them come back to the dear old town, again."

"First grand Sunday school rally under the auspices of the U. S. Co. U. S. Association of all Sunday schools in the county at Orchard Lake, August 13, 1944."

FOLKS in Uniform

Illustration of a soldier in uniform, possibly a recruit, with a speech bubble saying 'Do you suppose that American Indian division is using a secret weapon?'.

Urge Coal Users To Put Furnaces In Top Condition

Because of an anticipated shortage of 25,000,000 tons of coal between production and requirements this year, users of this type of fuel, both industrial and household, are urged to make every pound of coal do more work through increased efficiency and to minimize losses in the heating plant.

"The possibility of rationing this fall, according to Paul W. Thompson, co-ordinator of the Detroit area committee of the national fuel efficiency program. The Detroit area committee is in charge of the program and is working through industrial and business organizations.

"Industry and business organizations have responded magnificently so far," commented Mr. Thompson, "and it is estimated that 500 returns of companies so far enrolled in the drive, the average fuel savings runs from 5 to 12 per cent."

"These large and small business organizations are, to what coal on a large scale, domestic users can also do on a small scale, surprising what small improvements in equipment can do to save fuel. Insulation of heat stokers, new grades, automatic cleaning out of flues and the setting off of unused space can save fuel."

"Persons realize, for instance, that a foot length of 100 pounds of steam pipe carrying 100 pounds of steam per square inch will waste 5 tons of coal in a year's time, unless it is insulated."

"Believe that the fuel efficiency program being put in operation by most industrial and business organizations can be duplicated on a smaller scale by domestic users of fuel. Also think it will be much simpler to cooperate voluntarily in saving coal than in having rationing imposed."

Community House August Schedule

Employment Office Open - 8:30 a.m. - 12 m. every week day except Saturday. Sewing Machine Dressings - Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday nights, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. only from Aug. 1 through Aug. 15. Blood Bank - Aug. 16 and Aug. 17. The rest of the house closed for necessary repairs and decorating until Sept. 5, 1944.