

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

Latbrup Townsite News

by LILLIAN DIEDERICH

Staff Sergeant Clifford Porter has left Hawaii, according to his mother, Mrs. James Porter, of Dulores avenue, and is now in the Southern Pacific theatre of war. In a recent letter, the first received since Christmas, he stated he was hospitalized with tropical fever and had lost considerable weight but is now on the mend. Sgt. Porter was at Pearl Harbor that fateful Dec. 7, but escaped without injury. He has not been home in 3 years and 3 months. His brother, Sgt. Wade Porter, with the Air Force overseas in England, was shipped overseas without furlough and has been away 15 months. In a recent letter he wrote about a play he has appeared in titled "Fools in Footlight." He plays taps in a "Skyline" orchestra, made up of an air corps group.

Mrs. E. B. Snary, of Bloomfield drive, was hosted Tuesday at a benefit bridge luncheon given for St. Michael's Altar Society.

Catherine Rohn, of San Diego drive, daily boards an early morning bus for town. She is the federal grand jury. Her term expires March 17.

The young element of the Townsite have had "going on" the past week. Ann "Peppiat" celebrated her 13th birthday with a supper party given at her home on Saratoga boulevard, followed by a three party.

Mary Margaret Torrance was hostess to a group of ten girls at a dinner followed by the movies last week. Joan Weaver gave a supper dance in her home Saturday at which 30 boys and girls attended.

The Howard Stocks of San Diego drive entertained their Detroit bridge club Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Imman, of San Juan drive visited Air Cadet Larry Imman at Nashville, Tenn., last week before he was transferred to Maxwell Field to further his training.

Word has been received that Radio Gunner Paul Imman, another son of the Imman family, was honorably discharged from the Army due to a foot injury sustained while Paul was not take it. He went to "higher ups" and underwent many examinations pro and con, and finally was declared to remain in service if it meant so much to him. Paul is elated. He is expected home on a

short furlough Thursday after which he will be sent to Goldboro, N. Carolina.

Mrs. Robert Sealy, of Glendale boulevard, is on a three weeks vacation at Fort Larned, Ft. Fla. She is expected home March 1.

Bits of Birmingham

(Continued from Page 1, Part 2)

In explaining the work of the Bell Laboratory to Birmingham Rotarians on Monday noon at the Community House R. S. Spindle, manager at Pontiac for the Michigan Bell Telephone company, proved one of the most entertaining speakers heard there. He spoke on the recent conference of mayors and conference of engineers in Lansing. He was reported that the proposed Birmingham municipal employees' retirement plan had received formal approval from Lansing and would be put up to a vote of the people of Birmingham at the coming April election.

The City Commission held one of its shortest meetings in many months on Monday evening at the Municipal building. The actual business session required only 20 minutes during which time the bills were allowed, and a report given on the recent conference of mayors and conference of engineers in Lansing. He was reported that the proposed Birmingham municipal employees' retirement plan had received formal approval from Lansing and would be put up to a vote of the people of Birmingham at the coming April election.

The hearing in the case of Edward Smith, held on a charge of purchasing stolen liquor, was resumed today before Judge Forbes' Bench. The case was delayed because of the death of Charles L. Wilson, Oakland county prosecutor. H. L. Hodge, assistant prosecutor, is handling the case in Judge Hodge's court, recently, Louis E. Smith paid a \$15 fine for disorderly conduct.

Many Birmingham folk have been heard to remark that "we have been having quite some winter weather" but the Wanderer finds wanderers how they would have liked being aboard the railroad car ferry Chik Wawatum, which stuck in the ice for eight hours, far out from land, on a recent trip from Mackinac City to St. Ignace. As far as could be ascertained, there were no Birmingham folk aboard. There were 200 passengers on the D.S.S. & A. railroad passenger train which was being moved across the Straits and a number of passenger automobiles and trucks.

The new member of the Oakland county road commission, Sol D. Lomerson of Lake Orion, named to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death from an automobile accident of John A. Bradley, Holly, Mr. Lomerson was born and reared in the Lake Orion region and has always resided there. He operates a large farm.

The recent land sale for Oakland county, held at Pontiac, drew more than 1000 interested Birmingham folk for all but one of the 125 pieces of land in this city, listed for sale, were bid in during the February 10 session, according to Elmer Haack, city assessor. The price was unusually high with spirited bidding on many plots of land offered. Deeds will be issued at the end of the 30-day period, unless the owners decide to redeem their property.

Birmingham police are called upon for many tasks and last week

Avenging Jap Cruelty

Official revelation of the torture of American and Filipino soldiers by the Japanese merely confirms what most of us have suspected all along.

There is shock, nevertheless, because occasionally, in the past, intimations of a more humane sort came to us out of the welter of blood in the Far East.

It is too early to conclude that all prisoners have been tortured and there is hope that many have received reasonable treatment. Until facts appear, let this hope remain.

The Japanese set the world an example of horror at Nanking and revealed their hatred of the white race at Hong Kong. Nothing should surprise us in the future unless here, where some Japanese army official exhibits some of the virtues of civilization.

There is nothing to be gained by becoming enraged in an emotional manner. What we need is the cold, white anger of an avenging nation, setting itself calculatingly to the task of inflicting proper punishment upon a barbarous enemy.

No American can avenge these tortured soldiers by applying vocal epithets to the Mikado or threatening Tokyo with verbal bombings. In due course the fighting men of this country will take proper action, which we may leave to them and their commanding officers.

We of the home front can resolutely support our military and naval leaders. We can, and should, prevent pious pacifists and peace fanatics from staving the strong right arm of justice when it swings threateningly over the heads of Japanese brutes.

Lansing's Evil-doers

Indictments returned against a number of present and past members of the Michigan Legislature by Judge Carr's special grand jury represent a breathful surprise. This body, on the whole, has been for years free from such an investigation; that it eventually would come, of course, was expected.

Very few upright and tolerant people like to see their fellow-man in trouble—which is one basic reason that so many evils are allowed to go on; but the Lansing legislative body of late has given some observers a feeling that all has not been on the level in the Capital Building. Judge Carr and his investigators, Kim Sigler, may be depended upon to get to the bottom of the mess.

In the meantime, until they are tried and convicted, let's not hold in mental condemnation too many of the legislators.

What a grand opportunity for real public service Attorney-General Herbert Ruston has passed up of late!

BIRMINGHAM'S CITY COMMISSION HAS come forth with a Retirement Plan for its municipal employees. It will be voted on at the annual April 3 election. We advise our citizens to become acquainted with the Plan, investigate its need and usefulness, its cost to us, its benefits to the employees. Then you will, with intelligence, cast your vote in the good old American way.

They aided Mrs. Harry Steffe, 1011 Hazel street, whose small child had one of its fingers pierced by the needle of a sewing machine. Police released the child's finger from the machine and took the child to a physician for treatment.

With the mercury hovering around zero a few days later, reports have been coming in on the first robin, Frank Van Floter, of 112 E. Park, reported the first appearance of a red breast which occurred near the city sewage disposal plant on Cranbrook road on February 5. The very next day, Master David Bowen, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Bowen, of 722 Westwood drive, got a glimpse of one near his home. Wonder what happens to these early birds when the weather turns cold and blustery as it did since their arrival?

A bunch of sad youngsters

trudged out of the Baldwin high school gymnasium Saturday morning after the last game of the grade school league. The season was over for them and they have really enjoyed going to the big

Moslems to Visit Mecca

The French Committee of National Liberation is making a gesture of some importance toward the 15,000,000 Moslems who reside in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

For years, French authorities have provided a ship to carry Moslem pilgrims to Mecca, the Holy City, that every Moslem is supposed to visit at least once. The last excursion was made in 1939.

The present arrangement for the annual religious journey is deemed important in connection with the relation of France to the Moslem population.

Some five thousand Moslems are expected to make the visit which has supreme importance in their lives. An expert on Moslem affairs says that often an entire village feels honored when one representative goes to Mecca to earn the title of "Haji" or "Sanctified one."

Wood 12,000,000 Years Old

The average person thinks that wood is a temporary substance certain to decay in the course of time. Experts of the United States Forest Service, however, say that such a conclusion is not true.

Time or age, they assert, has nothing to do with the decay of wood. It is caused by the attacks of fungus and there will be no decay if wood is kept either thoroughly saturated, or too dry for the fungus to grow.

In fact, the forestry experts point to a frame house, in Dedham, Massachusetts, which is still intact after three hundred years. They tell of a log seven feet in diameter, found in a tunnel under the bed of the Yakima River, in the State of Washington. The log was identified by the experts as an extinct species of sequoia, of an age estimated at 12,000,000 years.

HATS OFF, GENTLEMEN, to the Birmingham League of Women Voters. Every so often they get speakers to talk about vital current problems. These women are determined to become better informed citizens themselves—and more power to them!

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SCOUT NEWS

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

By TOM AUSTIN

Troop B-8 over the past two weeks has been on an extended tour of the area in which they have gathered a considerable amount of this vital material of the individual Scouts carried on their own drives in addition to the larger collection of the troop. It was figured that the paper turned in by B-8 would be sufficient for 200,000 ammunition cases.

Through helping in the war effort, B-8 has still found time for fun too. On Saturday, February 12 the troop went to ski and bogan at the Birmingham Golf Course. Recently at Camp George the same troop played hockey on the ice of Lower Long Lake.

In preparation for the Scouting in Action program to be held on Friday, March 3, Ralph Main asks that one man from each troop committee, preferably the man in charge of camping and activities, see him shortly about helping to judge the contests for the night. The program will be a climax to the Scouting in Action program which has been carried on in the entire Detroit Area Council.

The Scouts of Birmingham are very grateful for the use of the human pool which has recently been granted to them. Beginners and Scouts wishing to pass the fifty yard swim for first class are asked to report at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. At 8 o'clock, advanced swimmers and Scouts through in swimming and life saving merit badges are to have the pool for an hour on the same day of the week. They must present their registration cards when they come, and are requested to furnish their own towels and comb.

FARMS GO TO FARMERS Everyone concerned seems to be pleased with the way farms are returning to the hands of the good. During the mortgage foreclosure era of the 1930's, farms which they didn't want were turned over to banks of insurance companies by farmers who didn't want to lose them. Now one company reports that of its 8,500 farms, all but 1,900 have gone back to farmers, while another company reports that it will soon have sold 90 per cent of its holdings.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO Feb. 15, 1894

"Speaking of storm centers, how about the United States? Well, the B.P.S. will have an apron social, Friday evening, Feb. 24, at the home of Mr. Haman."

"To save the life of a venture, some skater who has broken through the ice is an act of bravery, but to keep off the ice when it is too thin for safety is an act of discretion, which."

"Two Troy boys both beginning their names with a capital F, got into a fight one day last week and blood flowed down Maple avenue like rain. Boys, you should never let your angry passions run."

"One day recently while Mr. Will Hagerman was logging he got caught under a log and broke one of the bones in his leg and was fast so that alone he was unable to loosen himself. Fortunately his calls for help were heard and he was speedily released."

"We are constrained to give our Birmingham correspondent of the Evening News a little good advice. He is a man of family, well liked and a gentleman this village would sadly miss if he should be called to the U. S. Army. If he does not let church quarrels severely alone, he came to our village a man free born, of good report and well recommended. He'll go out a flaking if he dabbles in religious matters any more and when his spirit has fled, his skeleton bleached and scathed, will make a lovely but rack. Just drive pigs into the bullet holes to hang hats and coats on, turn his ribs upside down for a rackable holder and an umbrella carrier and there you have it a thing both useful and ornamental."

20 YEARS AGO Feb. 15, 1924

"The Washington group of the Senior class will present on Feb. 22, a musical production of 'Black and White' in the form of a musical revue featuring both black and white performers."

"Lura Lyman, 14 year-old Birmingham girl, won the half-mile sprint at the State Fair, the Aviation Country Club's ice carnival last Sunday at Green Bay, Wis."

"A petition from Joseph Mack, president of the Quanton Lakes Estates Co., the subdivision west of Birmingham that was annexed about a year ago, asking that the lights be installed, was filed with the commission Monday night."

5 YEARS AGO Feb. 16, 1939

"Effects of the blooded Township offices are now settled in the new Town Hall on Telegraph road just south of West Long Lake road. The main offices are on the first floor and the garage and fire hall are below on the road level facing a court on the south side."

"Unless one of the two opposing candidates for the office of Justice of the Peace in Southfield Township, withdraws before the spring primary, April 3, it will cost the township \$200 to elect a new Justice."

"Back home in Birmingham where while oil butter on toast is unheard-of, Mrs. Franklin Q. Hershey is once more adjusting her life to that of the American housewife. With Mr. Hershey, who is a stylist for the General Motors corporation, and their two-year-old son, Michael, she has returned to their home on Pleasant avenue after a year spent almost literally 'at the end of the earth.'"

"The Cranbrook School hockey team tied for the championship of the Tri-State League, at Buffalo over the weekend, after a close struggle in which the Hills team should have fired enough to surprise even itself."

RATIONING AT A GLANCE

Gasoline—In 17 east coast states A-5 coupons are good through May 8. In states outside the east coast area, A-10 coupons are good through March 21.

Tire Inspection—For A-coupon holders, March 31, and for B and C holders, Feb. 28.

Sugar—Stamp No. 10 in book good through Feb. 21. Stamp No. 11 in book good through March 31. Stamp No. 12 in book good for good for five pounds of sugar through Feb. 28, 1945.

Shoes—Stamp No. 18 in book and No. 1 on the Airplane sheet in book are each good for one pair.

Food—Period 3 coupons are good through Feb. 21 in all other areas. Period 4 coupons are good in the Middle West and South and remain good through March 31.

Meats, Fats—Stamp W, W, and X are good through Feb. 13 and remain good through Feb. 28. Waste kitchen fats are redeemable at two ration points plus four cents a pound.

Processed Foods—Green stamps G, U, and H are good through Feb. 28. Green stamps K, L, M and N are good through March 31.

Income Tax—March 15 is deadline for filing returns, earlier filing is desirable.

She—I get most of my clever hints from Mr. A. S. P.

She—Your most serious ailment is insomnia.

OUR DEMOCRACY

by M. M.



GEORGE WASHINGTON. FEBRUARY 22, 1732 - DECEMBER 17, 1799.

Birmingham Boy Hits Laundry Long Shot

Delbert Ashwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ashwell, Brown street, and now visiting Uncle Sam in the U. S. Army, has just a clip in the U. S. Army. He is now a private in the Aviation Country Club's ice carnival last Sunday at Green Bay, Wis."

The story reads: Camp Blanton, Florida—Army service their own problem.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner



Story telling pictures like the one are welcomed by those in the Service and are easy to make.

Most men don't think about making snapshots outdoors in nice sunny weather but when winter arrives, well, too many unfortunately, release the camera to tell those in the Service, to illuminate until some special occasion brings them out for action.

In these days of rationing, don't let the requirements of our government that is all right to a certain extent. We should conserve film, but don't let us get so busy we should stop taking pictures. Shooting promiscuously is wasting film but taking purposeful pictures is certainly justifiable, especially if they are for those in the Service.

Winter is an ideal time for taking pictures indoors and, carefully planned, they can be made to tell those in the Service a real story of friends and relatives back home.

Suppose you write in a letter "I'm thinking of you, especially if they are for those in the Service. Shooting promiscuously is wasting film but taking purposeful pictures is certainly justifiable, especially if they are for those in the Service. Shooting promiscuously is wasting film but taking purposeful pictures is certainly justifiable, especially if they are for those in the Service. Shooting promiscuously is wasting film but taking purposeful pictures is certainly justifiable, especially if they are for those in the Service."

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No, it doesn't take a lot of expensive equipment to take pictures indoors. You really shouldn't strive for dramatic lighting because that's the Service prefer simple snapshots—not overdone attempts, at all.

photographic art. Two ordinary

John van Guilder

SALVAGE MEMO

TIN CANS—Rinse after use, remove label, open bottom end and flatten with foot. Place at curb for last City collection day of the month. Keep dry and separate from rubbish.

WASTE FATS—Strain and keep cool. Turn in to your meat market when you have a lot. No separate cans not wanted.

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

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, SCRAP PAPER—Pick-up of these may be arranged for by calling the Salvage Desk, at the Community Building, Phone 1234, between 9 o'clock and 12 o'clock, Monday's through Fridays.

PECK'S Cash and Carry

Suits, Topcoats, Plain Dresses, \$1.09

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