

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

Michigan Mirror

By GENE ALLEMAN
The indispensable man in this war isn't the general. No siree!

Our nomination for the honor, and such it should be, goes to the man who, armed with a rifle, cold steel bayonet and a pistol, meets the enemy face to face in actual combat. It is kill or be killed—not a pleasant alternative to choose. You either vanquish the other man, or you become a victim yourself.

Eye-witness experience as an observer at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, where some 10,000 men are being trained today for infantry duty overseas, prompted the above observation. We offer it in all sincerity, and with full appreciation for the sacrificial service performed by men in other branches of military service.

For an afternoon's diversion, you may undergo the following: It's a stretch of every man in the infantry—private or officer—before he is permitted to enter a trench. It is called infiltration training, and guster, is it mean? You must crawl, on your hands and knees, through the mud and grass, over the logs and branches of a live machine gun bullets whistle over your head. In fact, you have four sources of danger: one is marked by trails of red fire. This tracer shows you exactly where the enemy is.

What are you going to do tomorrow? Well, here yourself for this experience, all in all, it's worth the price. First call is at 5:40 a. m. Breakfast follows, shortly afterward. Then you spend a few hours practicing bayonet drill in which you crawl over logs, over a live machine gun, over a live machine gun, over a live machine gun.

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.

WABEK STATE BANK
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.

Bonds Provide In connection with War Supplies
It is important that the people of Birmingham and Oakland County realize that the nation has undertaken, in the invasion of Western Europe, one of the most hazardous undertakings in any other war.

Military experts assure us that our Army has no superior in equipment, new weapons or latest designs and that the supplies available for our men in their present effort are unequalled anywhere.

While labor and industry, in combination, produced the goods, the flow of cash from the U. S. Treasury is what keeps them in motion. Naturally, the outpouring of public money is possible only so long as the Treasury is able to secure funds from the people of this country.

The job of supplying, training, transporting, housing, clothing, feeding, nursing an army and navy is a tremendous undertaking, even for the finest industrial plant in the world.

Some idea of the supply problem is apparent when we remember that it took months to plan the operations in Africa, that port units had to be trained to unload vessels, railway units to operate railroads, engineer units to build roads, baking units to bake bread, medical units to care for the wounded.

In the invasion of Europe, everything is on a larger scale. Requiring more and more supplies, ships, vehicles, tanks, planes, guns, etc., etc.

In the North African operation, some 700,000 different items of equipment and supplies, from tanks to watch-springs, had to be available. More than 300 different items of clothing and equipment were required, more than 10,000 different signal corps items were needed, more than 100,000 articles for the engineer corps, running from bridges and bulldozers to storage facilities and railroad locomotives.

While the quantity of supplies has been gradually built up for the present enormous undertaking, the wear and tear of active campaigning will rapidly deplete these enormous stocks.

A pair of shoes, for example, lasts only about two weeks under combat conditions. This means that a constant supply of shoes through enemy action, some through unavoidable accident and some through ordinary wear and tear.

Consequently, if the people of this city have the intention of standing behind their fighting men, it is necessary for everyone to do his part in the subscribing to the Fifth War Loan campaign.

No Automatic New World
There is danger in the widely exploited idea that we will have a new world with the advent of peace.

For this reason Dr. Samuel E. Capen, chancellor of Syracuse University, warns that over-excited and unsettled persons, disappointed in the non-appearance of a new order, will become resentful and thus the easy prey of demagogues and bigots.

The danger that this man describes is real. Millions of people in the United States and elsewhere, have been assured that, when the Axis is defeated, the world will see better days. This has been given as a promise, not a possibility.

Thinking Americans should understand that the defeat of the Axis, which will overthrow Nazi and Japanese threats against the orderly development of human beings, will not change the nature of the men and women of the United Nation.

The victorious conclusion of the present war will not give us a new world order, or a new type of human being. It will only present us with the condition under which progress will be possible, but not inevitable.

What we don't know won't hurt us, is an old saying. What we do know, and don't attempt to tell, won't hurt others, either.

AGAIN, WE SAY: BIRMINGHAM NEEDS MORE apartment buildings. We'll wager that such an investment will pay a maximum of return, for this city certainly needs housing of this type.

The Birmingham Eccentric
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The Eccentric is pleased to publish printed material provided it has news value, and suggestions for editorial changes are invited.

Big Busses Take Birmingham Boys To Summer Camp
Birmingham boys, together with a lot of boys from the other parts of the county, left yesterday afternoon for their summer home camp.

Do You Smell Something Burning?
Birmingham residents are being asked to take part in a new campaign to place bins of green chests about every liberty ship, troop transport, and oil tanker sailing under the American flag.



Boys at YMCA Camp Promise to Make Game Chests for Crews of U. S. Freighters If Local Residents Will Donate Lumber
Birmingham residents are being asked to take part in a new campaign to place bins of green chests about every liberty ship, troop transport, and oil tanker sailing under the American flag.

Close Hunting Areas
Grandy, Traver and Leekman counties will be closed to foxhunting hunters after July 1, in addition to Akron, Benning, Mason, and Westford counties.

The Michigan legislature, in 1850, passed a law which provided for the formation of companies for the raising, driving, booming, and setting of logs, timber, lumber, and other such material, on the streams of the state.

Boys in Camp
Among the boys from Birmingham attending the first part of the summer camp are Peter and Tom Ladd, Roger Quisenberry, Gerald and Lawrence Beers, Horace and Richard Beers, and Dick Shaw, Roger How, Julian Chalki, David Howell, Fred Keller, Will Rialler, Wilbur Dore, Dan J. Hardin, John Mackay, Jack Pierce, Tom Grimshaw, John Knoblock, Roy and Carl Bowles, Dan J. Harty, Harry Hamilton, Douglas Jordan, Tom Corin, David Sewell, Jack Lynd and the counselors are James Hagan, Philip Allen, Harry Gruber, William Carlisle, Bob Lynd, Walter McPhail, Bob Behep, Richard Grove, William Hranz, Richard Hartine, Ted Herost and Clark Stanton.

Among the Birmingham boys who will go later in the season are Bill Elliott, Dick Adams, Franklin Rose, Bruce and Tom Lynd, and Tom Lynd.

Among the counselors and junior counselors from Birmingham are Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wanger, Bob King, Jerry Maynard, and Robert Wolf.

Robert Lynd, the director, Mrs. Lynd and the counselors went to camp last Sunday to hold a three-day institute on camp plans for the summer.

Camp leadership, program and personal guidance of campers, second-year directly under the direction of campers were among the subjects discussed.

People's Column
The Eccentric is pleased to receive letters from our readers. All communications must be signed. No anonymous letters will be published.

June 24, 1944
Birmingham Eccentric
Dear Sirs: It came to our attention that the story is circulating in Birmingham that the Birmingham Fire Department is being disbanded.

Our fire, unfortunately, was before we were able to get into the house and cover and protect our property as such as possible. I personally saw one man on the second floor directly under the burning roof spreading tar-paulins over furniture.

Very truly yours,
W. B. Manland
Rationing at a Glance
MEATS, FATS—Red stamps AS through WS, good indefinitely.

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SUGAR—Sugar stamps 30, 31 and 32 each good for five pounds in sugar through February, next year.

GASOLINE—A-10, East Coast through August 8. In states outside the East Coast area, A-10 coupons, good through September 21.

FUEL OIL—Period A and B coupons, good through September 30. New period coupons for the 1944-45 heating year may now be obtained.

Then the automobiles they have undergone fashion changes, too. How about a small order of prices also?

Happenings of Long Ago
Fourth of July may well prepare to thrill plenty this Fourth. This is the last Fourth celebration in the Department of Public Safety at Lansing, that Michigan will allow fireworks.

50 YEARS AGO
July 5, 1894
"Claude Jarvis, of Troy, spent Sunday with relatives in town."

5 YEARS AGO
June 29, 1939
"Two increases in P.W.A. grants toward the financing of municipal projects in Birmingham have been made through the Chicago office, according to City Manager Donald C. Zehert."

Folks in Uniform
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20 YEARS AGO
July 4, 1924
"The paving of East Maple avenue, north of the intersection with the eastern boundary of Birmingham to the John R. road, is an assured project according to word received this week from the Oakland County Road Commission, through W. J. Parmenter, chairman of a group of businessmen interested in the pavement."

30 YEARS AGO
June 29, 1914
"Patrons who have been in the line through all the years of their boyhood and manhood, and their own who, through the past years, have formed the habit of enjoying the thrill of 'fireworks'."

4th of July may well prepare to thrill plenty this Fourth. This is the last Fourth celebration in the Department of Public Safety at Lansing, that Michigan will allow fireworks.

To commemorate this great National holiday, the local Exchange Club and the local fire squad were scheduled to cross country on the Birmingham-Peak this morning to finally and firmly declare the supremacy of one of the battling sides, (more or less).

"Announcement of the various committees of the Birmingham Rotary Club for the year beginning July 1 was made this week."

Very truly yours,
W. B. Manland

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