

Editorial Page of The Birmingham Eccentric

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



By GENE ALLEMAN

Odds-and-ends from the news... State Republican leaders are banking strong on a heavy upstate vote next Tuesday (Nov. 7) to overcome the Detroit-Wayne county swing to F.D.R. This latter year before we entered the first World War, Michigan copper output was 270 million pounds. The C.I.O. Political Action Committee has been flooding this state with fourth term literature.

The importance of the tourist industry to the Michigan copper country is emphasized by these facts: In 1916 a peak of 300,000 workers, most of them from the South, Detroit war plants. The C.I.O. Political Action Committee has been flooding this state with fourth term literature.

When a Michigan service man becomes a patient at any government hospital in the U.S.A., a native of Michigan promptly calls to him a visit. He is one of the unique services of the Office of Veteran Affairs, headed by Col. Phil Pack.

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Much misunderstanding exists, it seems, about those \$2,000 loans available to returning veterans. The law provides for loans, not gifts; the loans may be used to buy a home, business, or other necessities, or buy farms. But Uncle Sam doesn't make the loans. He merely guarantees them, while banks, savings and loan companies, insurance companies, or other lenders make certain qualifications.

Small towns are still tops! From Dunsmuir, Cal., monthly publication of U.S. Department of Commerce: "If high levels of employment and exchange of goods are to be maintained after the war, the small town cannot be neglected."

Take the case of towns of less than 25,000 population. Together with unincorporated rural areas, they make up 60 per cent of the entire population of the country. Even towns of less than 10,000, if taken with rural areas, total as much as 55 per cent of the whole population.

Grand jury investigations are

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 PAPER.—Store in a dry place. Turn in to your meat market when you have a few pounds. Rancid fats are wanted.

SCRAP METALS, GLASS, RUBBER.—Leave at curb on your last City collection day of the month. Copper engravers' shavings and old keys may be left at the library.

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, SCRAP PAPER.—Pick up these may be arranged for by calling the Salvage Dept. at the Municipal Building, Phone 1230 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 o'clock Mondays through Fridays. Regular city curb pickup first Friday of each month.

"A FRIENDLY BANK"

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

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BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING

Tuesday's Election

Every time a general election is held in Birmingham, numerous folks call the editor of this newspaper, asking: "What advice can you give me about such and such a proposition, or on such and such a candidate?"

Each time we have tried to give an honest and sincere answer. So we'll do it now in print.

In advance, let us assure you that, while our personal political preferences have nothing to do with the election, we are on occasion we have supported and voted for good Democrats, too. Long ago we came to the conclusion that there are good men and women in both major political parties; that good and bad issues may be advanced by either side. So here, folks, is how we intend to vote November 7:

For President: Thomas E. Dewey.
For Governor: Harry F. Kelly.
For Lieutenant Governor: Vernon J. Brown.
For Secretary of State: Herman H. Dignan.
For Attorney General: John R. Bowers.
For State Treasurer: D. Hale Brake.
For Auditor-General: John D. Morrison.
(But Clark J. Adams, of Oakland County, a good Democrat, is also worth your approval.)
For Representative in Congress: George A. Donahue.
For State Senator: George N. Higgins.
For Representative in State Legislature: Howard R. Estes.
For County Prosecutor: Donald C. Noggle.
For County Sheriff: Edward K. Thomas.
For County Clerk: Lynn D. Allen.
For County Treasurer: Charles A. Sparks.
For County Register of Deeds: Orrin McQuaid.
For County Drain Commissioner: Earl L. Clark.
For County Coroner: Dr. Leon F. Cobb.

(Only one is on the ballot, but two are to be elected; so you may write in the name of any politician desired, whom you think will accept.)

All the above names are those of Republicans, with the exception of Adams, who is a Democrat, and seeks the office of State Auditor-General.

Last week we told you in this column how we plan to vote on the four State constitutional Amendments, together with our interpretation of them. So, if you wish to be reminded again, we repeat that Amendments No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 will win our approval; Amendment No. 3 will find us voting "No."

Next Tuesday, November 7, is the date for this tremendously important exercise of citizenship in the United States.

Regardless of how you vote, folks, VOTE! And, in spite of erring human nature, may the TRUTH triumph!

Last week we sought to interpret and reveal our attitude on No. 2 Amendment; apparently, our several sources of research were in slight error; since then we have learned that this No. 2 Amendment merely seeks to clarify an existing State statute, which will allow a member of the Legislature to run for a second term.

provisions are inadequate to cope with the rapid growth of Birmingham, members of the village commission have set aside Monday night, November 24, to investigate the matter with the view to placing any revisions or amendments before the voters at the annual village election next spring.

"Plans for a 'Rotary Ann' banquet and dance are nearing completion, and on Wednesday evening, Nov. 19, members of the Birmingham Rotary Club will assemble with their wives at the Birmingham Golf Club for the first time in a joint meeting."

"The red-breasted robin has long been recognized as the official harbinger of the arrival of spring. Now comes the official warning that winter has stepped out from the wings in the form of the stove in the local village clerk's office."

5 YEARS AGO
Nov. 2, 1939

"Little Peggy Baldwin, 915 Forest avenue, was confused when she presented her ticket at the Hill school to receive her prize that she couldn't even remember her street address. She backed off explaining as best she could that 'I

"All of the politicians are polishing up their Told-you-so speeches, but only a few of them will be able to use them."

"There is more money in saving wood than in campaign oratory, but only experience will convince men of the fact."

"If anyone finds a brown cape, it's mine, Mrs. H. Bowers."

"A lost shawl was found by the owner at this office. Call, prove property, pay for this notice and return."

"Preparations for the Ladies' Library Fair are being made and much fine work is being done both for sale and for exhibition. It will be a good place to buy your Christmas presents."

"The old parlor is fitted up with a kitescope, the young folk will have to keep to their respective ends of the sofa, or furnish amusement for the breakfast table of the girl's family."

"Before the women are given the right to enter politics and to vote they should be compelled to study that they will not attempt to discuss the tariff with their sweethearts."

"Is it the style in the country for the ladies to help their husbands and beaux in the fields? If so, why not all devote to the cause? Answer—Husbands would object."

"New, prettier school rooms than those in our own school can't be found. There is a home art about them that speaks volumes for teachers, pupils and janitor."

U.S. Woman Served the Japs

Mrs. Velyalee Dickinson, 50 years old, has been sentenced to serve ten years in prison by a Federal judge in New York upon her plea of guilty to a charge of violating the censorship law.

The Government charged that she was an agent through whom the Japanese sought to secure naval information, that she was paid "over \$60,000," by the Japanese, and that, as late as Thanksgiving, 1941, she "could have given our Government incontestable proof that the Japanese were expecting to be at war with the United States in a few days."

It seems almost impossible to believe that a citizen of this country would have been willing to serve the Japanese at the expense of her country. While she pleaded guilty to violating the censorship law, the Government dismissed an espionage charge because the evidence could not be brought out in open court without endangering the national security.

Because some 85,000,000 Americans view the motion picture theatres every week it is important that the standard of the films presented be constantly improved.

Prof. Fred Eastman, of the University of Chicago, says that the battle of decency in the movies, has been won but a "picture may be decent and still be insane, stupid and worthless." There is, we believe, no answer to that.

He suggests that the public must select its pictures with care, patronizing the best and boycotting the rest. This is a good idea. In fact, the selective process could be stimulated by providing that those who operate moving picture theatres have greater freedom in rejecting proffered films.

As it is, the average operator of a small motion picture theatre has little or no voice in the type of films exhibited. He must buy what the film companies manufacture and he must charge the prices they set and show them the number of days they demand.

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions of news, facts, and information. Contributions are usually edited so as to conform to general news-writing style. Any correction upon the character, standing or veracity of news items, from whatever source, will appear in the columns of the Eccentric will be gladly accepted upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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Legion Seeks Aid In Sending Boxes To Injured Vets

The Charles Edwards Post No. 14 of the American Legion has made arrangements to participate in the nation-wide program of sending boxes to injured veterans in hospitals who will be without a Christmas package.

Eddie Cantor is broadcasting this program each Wednesday at 9 p.m. over WJW, instructions for making up these boxes have been issued to merchants through their national organizations.

The local Legion Post will take charge of any package for this program, delivered to the Post home before Dec. 18.

Arrangements have been made to pick up these packages and deliver to the nearest hospital, where the members of the armed forces may be in. If such hospital is over supplied, they will be redirected to the next nearest.

Birmingham residents are invited to inquire of local Legion officers, order boxes made up, and see that they are delivered to the Legion home. The Legion slogan is "Don't let any Soldier, Sailor, Marine, or Seabee go to bed without a Christmas box." WREN or SPAN, who is in the hospital he without a Christmas box this Christmas, and remember the deadline is Dec. 18.

Strictly Fresh

SHORTAGE of help has forced St. Paul, Minn., bowlers to set their own pin, the first instance on record where willingness to work under irregular conditions has increased the number of strikes.

Both Army and Navy put the stamp of secrecy on their efforts to win under irregular conditions. Apparently the strategy is to let the public blame the Japs a while longer.

Eighty-four tons of matches have arrived in Paris. One of the match companies feels Paris is a town which has been without a hot time long enough.

War is hitting the heretofore harder than ever these days. With black markets and bombings, ceilings are going sky high.

The Allied powers finally recognized De Gaulle. The business of identification, however, might well include fingerprinting as they march farther and farther into Europe.

RATIONING AT A GLANCE

Meats, Fats—Red stamps A8 through Z8 and A5 through P6, good indefinitely. The four red stamps validated Dec. 25 totaling 40 red points will have to last at least a 5-week period. No new red stamps until Dec. 3.

Processed Foods—Blue stamps A8 through Z8 and A5 through P6, good indefinitely. No new stamps until Dec. 1.

Sugar—Sugar stamps 30, 32 and 33, each good for five pounds indefinitely; sugar stamp 40, good for five pounds of refined sugar through Feb. 28, 1945.

Gasoline in 17 East Coast states, A-11 coupons, good for one gallon each through Nov. 8. In States outside the East Coast, A-13 coupons in new "A" book, good for four gallons each through Dec. 31.

Fuel Oil—Period 4 and 5 coupons and new period 1 coupons, good throughout present heating year.

Shoes—Airplane stamps 1 and 2, good indefinitely. Airplane stamp 3 becomes good Nov. 1 until remains good indefinitely.

Off-Highway Gas Coupons—Farmers and other non-highway gasoline users are notified by the Office of Price Administration that any "E" and "R" coupons, not serially numbered, expired Nov. 8 and may be exchanged for ration currency at their local War Price and Rationing Board.

The ration coupons can be identified by two points: First, they have no serial numbers, and second, they bear the "Gulf" letters "E" and "R" with no number after them. Currently valid coupons bearing serial numbers are lettered "E-1," "E-2," "E-3," "E-4," "E-5," "E-6," "E-7," "E-8," "E-9," "E-10," "E-11," "E-12," "E-13," "E-14," "E-15," "E-16," "E-17," "E-18," "E-19," "E-20," "E-21," "E-22," "E-23," "E-24," "E-25," "E-26," "E-27," "E-28," "E-29," "E-30," "E-31," "E-32," "E-33," "E-34," "E-35," "E-36," "E-37," "E-38," "E-39," "E-40," "E-41," "E-42," "E-43," "E-44," "E-45," "E-46," "E-47," "E-48," "E-49," "E-50," "E-51," "E-52," "E-53," "E-54," "E-55," "E-56," "E-57," "E-58," "E-59," "E-60," "E-61," "E-62," "E-63," "E-64," "E-65," "E-66," "E-67," "E-68," "E-69," "E-70," "E-71," "E-72," "E-73," "E-74," "E-75," "E-76," "E-77," "E-78," "E-79," "E-80," "E-81," "E-82," "E-83," "E-84," "E-85," "E-86," "E-87," "E-88," "E-89," "E-90," "E-91," "E-92," "E-93," "E-94," "E-95," "E-96," "E-97," "E-98," "E-99," "E-100," "E-101," "E-102," "E-103," "E-104," "E-105," "E-106," "E-107," "E-108," "E-109," "E-110," "E-111," "E-112," "E-113," "E-114," "E-115," "E-116," 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