

# Editorial Page of The Birmingham Eccentric

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



**As a Michigan commentator who is limited in the field of politics to non-partisan observations, we have been watching for some time the effort of the Michigan CIO-sponsored Political Action Committee to swing the urban CIO vote to Roosevelt and Fry.**

Not that labor organizations have not plunged previously for candidates for their leaders have. But not until 1944 has any labor group in Michigan engaged so actively in the field of politics with an aggressive campaign to get out the vote on Nov. 7 and to put over certain favored candidates.

In fact, the CIO prominence in the Democratic camp is a matter of considerable speculation among Michigan Democrats as well as Republicans. They are all wondering what may be next.

What is the Political Action Committee? It had its origin at Cleveland in March, 1943. CIO President Philip Murray invited 200 key leaders to consider the possibility of the rising cost of living, the threatened swing to the right, at Washington.

Recent polls of the Detroit News emphasize the likelihood that Detroit's tremendous urban vote will swing heavily toward the Democratic column. If the Republicans are to win, they must get out the vote in upstate counties.

There are two separate ballots—one for congressman and vice-president, and the second for the governor. The Michigan Political Action Committee is offering another factor in 1944 which may put Kelly ahead of Dewey in the final vote.

Complication is the fact that about 35 counties the Democrats have no equivalent. Thus a job of at least interest may tend to keep Republicans at home in areas which are predominantly rural.

As an observer studies the 1944 campaign he can see the logical reason for believing that as a nation we are due for a sharp swing to the right—towards so-called conservatism, old-time capitalism, uncontrolled free enterprise—call it what you please.

At the Democratic national convention in Chicago CIO leaders were admittedly effective. They blocked the naming of James E. Byrnes for vice-president; failed to name Dewey for president.

The Grand Rapids convention of the Michigan Democrats likewise saw the CIO at the front. Here was something daring on the Michigan political scene—an

## Those Four Amendments

Aside from the various candidates you will vote for November 7, there are four proposed Constitutional Amendments being presented to Michigan voters.

No. 1 Amendment, if passed, would allow any Michigan city or village to set up to 25 percent of its available water supply to areas outside the city. Birmingham, for example, now sells about two per cent of its supply outside the city. After all, approval of this Amendment always leaves the decision up to each locality, so we see no reason why this No. 1 Amendment should not be approved.

No. 2 Amendment proposes to allow any member of the State Legislature to run for another State office without resigning from his present office, even though the term of the new office might start before the term of the office now held, expires.

At present, a State Representative now in office holds his office until January 1, 1945, when he is eligible to be re-elected to his 1942 expires; he may legally run for another State office, providing its term does not begin until January 1, 1945, as in the case of a Representative now running for State Senate, or some other State office whose term does not begin until January 1, 1945.

No. 3 Amendment proposes to increase the salaries of members of the Legislature from \$3.00 per day for 265 days per year, or \$1,095.00; for the two-year term it amounts to \$2,190.00; if they meet only 120 days each biennial term, they receive \$180.00 per day while in Lansing, plus one round-trip from home to Lansing on a mileage basis of travel. Many of the Legislators claim they can't live on Lansing on \$3.00 per day.

There is no doubt of this, if they were in Lansing 365 days each year, but they aren't. That "\$3.00 per day" is not a true statement. Personally, this newspaper believes that good Legislators are largely an honorary position, and ought to attract only men who can afford to get along on the present \$3.00 per day salary. We, therefore, agree with them and will vote "No" on No. 3 Amendment.

No. 4 Amendment relates to Home Rule for local government, and is largely a restatement of the Wayne County, Passage of this Amendment merely allows the voters in each County to change their method of operation, to the end that countless duplication of jobs may be eliminated, with attending decrease in cost. Passage of No. 4 Amendment will mean the existing type of government control in any of Michigan's 83 Counties; but

## Here's Your New Charges for Many Postal Services

Postmaster Joseph Byrne announces that effective November 1, 1944, there will be changes in fees for several postal services become effective.

The changes involve a reduction in fees for money orders, insurance and unregistered C.O.D.s and an increase for registered C.O.D.s and special delivery fees which in the first bracket up to two pounds are increased from 10 cents to 13 cents for first class mail and from 15 cents to 17 cents for other classes.

## Money Orders

A new postal note features the money order service with a 5 cent rate for a simplified form of money order for amounts from 1 cent to \$10.00.

Following are schedules for the new fees becoming effective November 1, 1944.

\$ 0.01 to \$ 2.50	.06c
2.51 to 5.00	.08c
5.01 to 10.00	.11c
10.01 to 20.00	.15c
20.01 to 40.00	.20c
40.01 to 60.00	.25c
60.01 to 80.00	.30c
80.01 to 100.00	.35c

## Insurance

\$ 0.01 to \$ 5.00 .09c  
5.01 to 25.00 .15c  
25.01 to 50.00 .20c  
50.01 to 200.00 .25c

## Unregistered C.O.D.

\$ 0.01 to \$ 2.00 .15c  
2.01 to 5.00 .20c  
5.01 to 25.00 .30c  
25.01 to 50.00 .40c  
50.01 to 100.00 .50c  
100.01 to 150.00 .55c  
150.01 to 200.00 .60c

## Registered C.O.D.

Not over 2 pounds, first class, 13c; other classes, 17c.  
Over 2, but not over 10 pounds, first class, 21c; other classes, 25c.  
Over 10 pounds, first class, 25c; other classes, 35c.

## C.O.D. Charges

\$200.01 to \$ 300.00 \$1.08  
300.01 to 400.00 1.16  
400.01 to 500.00 1.24  
500.01 to 600.00 1.32  
600.01 to 700.00 1.40  
700.01 to 800.00 1.48  
800.01 to 1000.00 1.60

## INURED IN FALL

Mrs. Nancy Hayes, who makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Carolyn Plummer, 468 W. Chester, Frank is in the Osteopathic hospital in Detroit suffering from injuries received last Friday night in a fall on the sidewalk.

## Special Program for Meeting of Cranbrook Photographic Society

The Cranbrook Photographic Society will meet Thursday evening, Nov. 2, at 8 o'clock in the lecture hall of the Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, on South Woodward avenue, gutted practically to the ground by the fire which destroyed the Pontiac hospital, the Temple and the Temple Grocery, and destroyed property valued at approximately \$10,000.

## TICKLERS

They used to be vaudeville jugglers before they went into the restaurant business.



## Ho, Hum!

The Right to Life Agency is looking for frank cranberries for that holiday dinner will be about 45 cents a pound, according to OPA, which has established cents-per-pound retail markups on this product effective Oct. 25.

## TALKS TO INSURANCE MEN

Vanle L. Desmond, assistant vice-president of the Detroit Trust Company and a resident of Birmingham, addressed the Association of Life Agency Cashiers at their monthly meeting last week held in Detroit. His subject was "Stepping Stone for Cashiers."

## Meats, Fats—Red stamps

Meats, Fats—Red stamps As through Z8 and A9 through K6 good indefinitely, L2 through V5 become good Oct. 29 and remain good indefinitely. No new stamps until Dec. 1.

## Process—Foods—Blue stamps

Process—Foods—Blue stamps A8 through Z8 and A9 through K6 good indefinitely, S5 through V5 become good Oct. 29 and remain good indefinitely. No new stamps until Dec. 1.

## Housewives Can Aid Drive

Housewives everywhere are being urged to cooperate with their grocers in a campaign to more promptly display ceiling prices in stores and to stimulate the use of price tags by housewives. The Office of Price Administration in cooperation with leading grocers, has issued a booklet, "How to Shop for Food."

## RATIONING AT A GLANCE

Meats, Fats—Red stamps As through Z8 and A9 through K6 good indefinitely, L2 through V5 become good Oct. 29 and remain good indefinitely. No new stamps until Dec. 1.

## SALVAGE MEMO

TIN CANS—Ripen 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—Stir in and keep cool. Turn in your meat market when you have a few pounds. Rancid fats not wanted.

## SCRAP METALS, GLASS, RUBBER—Leave in your car until your last City collection day of the month. Copper engravers' plates and die keys may be left at the library.

## NEWSPAPERS, M.A.G.A.ZINES, 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 on weekdays through Fridays. Regular city curb pickup first Friday of each month.

## 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

## Happenings of Long Ago

### 50 YEARS AGO

November 1, 1894  
"Our school never was on a higher grade and never in a more promising condition than now."  
"Did you ever enjoy lovelier fall weather than we have had the past six weeks? Echo answers never."  
The Canadian Jubilee Singers, the latest colored group traveling, have signed an engagement to sing in Birmingham, Nov. 27.

### 5 YEARS AGO

October 28, 1939  
"For the first time in eight years, the Junior Class was victorious over the Seniors in the annual field day which was held yesterday. Not only was the Senior Class beaten by the Juniors, but the Seniors' own team was embarrassed in third place. As in other years, the rain was a factor."  
"In order to raise funds to support the Leader Dog Foundation, an organization to train animals which guide the blind, the Birmingham Lions Club announced at its meeting Wednesday that it will illustrate his talk with photographs in stores and offices about the city where small donations may be received."  
"The present European struggle cannot possibly last as long as the First World War, stressed by Dr. Preston W. Slosson, professor of history at the University of Michigan, in his first lecture Tuesday evening at the Community House."

### 20 YEARS AGO

October 31, 1924  
"Bloomfield township, which includes Birmingham, was voted five precincts at the general election next Tuesday, November 4. In the morning, and will close at 9 o'clock in the evening, local time."  
"Entries in the Bloomfield Open Hunt Races to be started tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock in Bloomfield Hills, have been recorded for the annual point-to-

## point stepplechase and flat races."

Furs and jewelry valued more than \$1,000 were taken from the home of Dr. A. W. Newitt on North Woodward avenue Sunday afternoon, while the family was out.

"Fire, the result of a motor accident, destroyed the home of Mrs. L. O. Bennett, 1000 North Woodward avenue Sunday afternoon, while the family was out."

"The next bi-monthly meeting of the local Rotary and Exchange clubs, ladies of all wards, Christmas and New Year's, will be in the nature of a dinner-dance, at which the ladies of all members will be asked to appear."

"Albert M. Todd brought in a 'tom' modeled after a turtle, great curiosity and one that elicited a great deal of comment until some inquisitive inquirer discovered that it was home made. Oh Albert!"

"A variety of plants at the water works can call and see them whether they purchase or not."

"A so-called 'fair' in one of our neighboring counties last week had a very successful day. The managers were a lot of old muck-bucks who did not believe in advertising. They had a few pumpkins, a pumpkin, and a goose were the only exhibits that put in appearance. The fair was a failure, the managers were declared 'off'. The entire management got drunk and were run out. That ended in a darkening, and some might have been the fairest of 'fairs'."

"The present European struggle cannot possibly last as long as the First World War, stressed by Dr. Preston W. Slosson, professor of history at the University of Michigan, in his first lecture Tuesday evening at the Community House."

"Two changes in Birmingham's ordinance were made Monday night, and three others were proposed in a lengthy session which attracted a crowd from the usually-empty Commission chamber, and kept the City Fathers in session until 11:45 p.m."

"Publication of the Board of Education's minutes should be held until the next meeting of the Birmingham League of Women Voters suggested in a letter from the board's meeting Tuesday night."

"Keno games are 'out' so far as the University of Michigan is concerned, the Board of Education decided Tuesday evening."

## THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner



A little planning and imagination will help you get better and more appealing snapshots for those you love.

Have you ever noticed that the subject in your snapshots is always "Moop something in the picture that you don't like?"

The illustration above could have been made as a straight record shot of mother and daughter. Anybody else's pictures will agree that his characteristic in snapshots of people adds lively interest and adds to the attraction of the snapshot.

It isn't always easy to find something for your subjects to do, and that's why they're always looking for a place for their hands. Second, they are doing something that is characteristic of "Moop." The result is a more interesting picture.

Almost every picture-taking opportunity that yields a close-up of people affords you an outlet for your ingenuity—for example, remember

around the home, picnic, lakes, and vacations.

Bearing these few simple pointers in mind will help you to achieve recognition as an amateur photographer who puts punch in pictures. And your friends and relatives in the snapshots will be eager to receive the products of your more profitable efforts.

John Van Cullum