is Democracy's First Line of Defense

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

As this is being written, a veritable Strife argien over the station from labor's leadership against President Egimun's design to thave Congress write some restrictive labor legislation.

Unable to arbitrate their differences, management and labor are at odds today; bundreds of thousands of people are unemployed, due to strife in the industrial areas of our

deed, due to strife in the industrial areas of our country.

Chief cause is labor's demand that it he given great increases in wage rates, at the same time demanding that industry not be allowed to increase prices: this fight has been focused on the General Motors Corp.

Now that the war is over, President Traman and his leaders want the nation to get going on peace-time production, with its promise of general prosperity for the U.S. A.

Labor, finding its workers cut down in pay, due to stoppage of war work, seeks more cash for its members. All over the country industry, generally speaking, is willing to make reasonable increases—but not the 30 per cent demanded by the CIO, for example.

So the Truman administration, faced by a stalemate between management and labor, is going direct to Congress for laws that are expected to overcome dhe problem.

In our estimation, two essential requirements face labor today. First, labor must hemade more responsible foe its acts; second, labor must insist that its members perform a real day's work for a real day's wage.

As we have often said before: let labor per form more efficiently in the production of goods and services—then labor is, justified in demanding more wages from management.

Capitalism's President Truman points out that it is technically possible to produce enough material goods so that all men everywhere may be "adequate-ty fed, deeptly housed, and comfortably clothed."

if fed, decently housed, and comfortably clothed."

This is a fact that has not escaped the attention of the mass of people who make up the population of the globe. The realization explains much of the unrest that is apparent and the willingness of people, even in established countries, to try some other economic plan in an effort to reach the goal in mind.

Mr. Truman puts his finger on the trouble when he asks whether "our arrangement for exchange and distribution will be such that the enormous productive powers are enabled to operate freely for the benefit of everyone." In fact, this is the challenge that confronts what we call the American capitalistic system.

For many years the standard of living in the United States has been higher than any-where else on the globe, with a few minor exceptions, and people everywhere have looked to the United States as the land of opportunity. Nevertheless, our system of capitalism must continue to show its worth, in competition with other economic systems, or it will be wiped off the board.

"TRUTH IS A PRICELESS FEARE"... and the truth is needed if our people are ever to learn what caused Pearl Harbor to happen, as it did. If our nation really had character in high places, that truth would be forthcoming; instead, we have too many politicians.

Archaeologists report an ancient civilization closed by relies inneared at Hasuma. 400 miles from the following the civilization of the civilization of Abraham, and assert that man yes in operation at least 2,000 years before previous evidence had infeated by early before previous evidence had infeated by the civilization of Abraham the civilization of the control of the human race has been pushed a thousand years, or so, to the cra between 5,000 and, 6,000 years before Christ. The experts tell of things uncarthed which reveal that the ancient race cultivated the land, herded cattle, built brick houses, and made pottery.

It is always interesting to speculate upon the origin of mankind and the chances are that, when all the evidence is in, there will be something like proof of ancient civilizations in the western hemisphere. What happened to these carly peoples is speculation, but their existence demonstrates the slow process of humanity through the ages.

We should not become so intrigued with the past as to overlook the task of the present hour, buy shaping the destinies of men for future years. Much can be learned, no doubt, but the same can be said about full information about precent day men and women.

Predictions bulling and women.

The reputation of most political prophets and war experts together with editorial writers, would be hopelessly blasted if somehody took the time to read their stuff after a lapse of a few years and came forward with their mistakes.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch has no qualms, however, and recently quoted census figures 139,016,000 and their control of the control

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch has no qualmis, however, and recently quoted census figures showing the population of the nation at 139,618,000 and their calls attention'to propherics which attempted to forecast the trend of population in the United States.

One was Jay Franklin, who, writing in May, 1937, after interviewing the Government's "greatest experts on population beginning in 1945, with 132,000,000 at the high-water mark in 1946.

The other prophet quoted was Abraham Lincoln, who, in his second message to Congress on December 1, 1862, reported that the rate of increase had averaged 34.6 pcr cent between national censuses up to that time and exuberantly forecast a national population of 251,650,000 in 1930.

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MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

## Stymied! Bits of



## Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO
Dec. 12, 1895
Mrs. Vames Nye, near Bloomfield Center, had wpacigage of old
agarden seeds, as she supposed, and
threw it in the stove. It was gunprowder and Dr. McCarroll dressed to it
the barns that Mrs. Nye received
the barns that Mrs. Nye received
lace." "I'm the sploation took 100
lace." "I'm the sploation too

place." We stole a glance at the pro-gram of the gentlemen's supper to be given Dec. 31. Yun! Yun! We're going sure. 'Tis to be in the basement of St. James church." "Although we are only 15 cents" worth away from the metropolis of Michigan, yet we are not puffed up."

"Buckingham's dye for the whiskers does its work thoroughly; chiskers does its work theroughly, oloring a uniform brown or black, thich, when dry, will neither rub, as off, nor soil linen."

gr. Exchange Bank.

Exchange Bankir store;

Whene beautiful snow;

What whene beautiful snow;

Whene show in this place and scienty closed on Priday for short show the short short show the short sho

20 YEARS AGO
Dee. 11, 1925

"Going to work is commendlible, but working after one gets
here is more 50."
"Presumably that Oklahomi
"Presumably that Oklahomi
"Presumably that Oklahomi
"Sometimes an ama wins a much
bout housekeeping as dancing."
"Sometimes a man wins a womn's hand only to find that it is
compt thumb."

s nam only stiff the stiff thumb.

This year's boll weevil strike luced the price of cottom about cents a pound."

About the only thing that can made without any material is back of an evening gove."

Ten years ago the first pave-

Walter O Briggs is back of

roit. Watter U. Disas.

"The thinking man or woman in these days may be alarmed by the lestructive forces that seem to be sweeping across this country and across other countries like a relativest tornade taking everything in

less torrade taking everything in less its path."

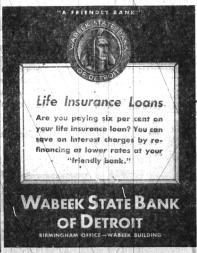
"A Washington pollceman was arrested for not reporting an accident he had while motoring with the wife of a hootlenger."

May the wife of a hootlenger, was the wife of a hootlenger, where smolking is permitted, girls with that a "Wellealey Collega are forbidden to smoke, either on or off campus." In Cardiff, Wales, was found a to five word was round in the word heard of the World War nor or was the word of the word was round in three men tined for speeding in St. Louis in one day. They were Alex Staid, George Faster and John C. Slowe."

### 5 YEARS AGO

nen are busy at the roller rink which will be opened D. G. Hayes of Ferndala McCallum building, on the

"One hundred dollars in prizes are being offered by Birmingham Merchants for best decorated homes during the Christmas sea-son."



# Birmingham

she reported.

Many complaints of speeding cars have been filed with the police department this fall and numerous cars have been filed with the police department this fall and numerous cars have been failed with the policy of the control of the c

Judge Forbas Hascall says, he never realized it was so far from Washington to Birminghiam, but that he found out all shout discusses and the time element when too Birmingham on Subday. "We did it in one day but it was a long day and a big lot of miles," he admitted to the Wanderse, Judge Washington hast week while the former attended the National Institute of Municipal Law Officery.

Chicken killing dogs often reported about Birminghay but Ray Luscombe, 1450 North Woodward, tells police he has found one. Not only was the dog killing some of the chickens from the Luscombe flock but he appar-

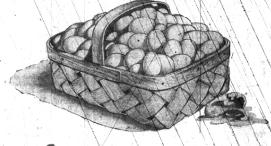
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recommendations, call your local Detroit Edison office,



ou can't put more eggs in a basket Y than it will hold. It won't work! And you can't use any number of electrical appliances on one circuit. It won't work either! Yet many home owners have become accustomed to inadequate wiring-to frequent blown fuses because of an "overloaded" circuit. Making sure that your home wiring is up to date is your assurance of being able to use the electrical appliances you want in your home when you want to use themwhere you want to use them. It means having your home furnishings arranged to suit your taste, with outlets always convenient. It also means that it should accommodate a new frozen-food cabinet, electric range, automatic laundry, electric dishwasher and many other electrical appliances. And, of course, if your plans for tomorrow include a brand-new home, adequate wiring is an "A-I" item to check in plans and specifications.

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