

A Free, Responsible and Aggressive Press is Democracy's First Line of Defense

"Inner Illumination" Many years ago the psalmist lamented "that he who increases knowledge increases sorrow"

We have something of a counterpart in this era among those who decry scientific knowledge and the detailed intelligence of the specialist in many fields.

The advance of intelligence in the world has not yet halted before such ignorant barriers and as men and women look ahead they visualize a world in which the truth will eventually become clearly established.

Not every individual who becomes a specialist, however, is equipped with the broadness of vision that enables one to appreciate other achievements in the realm of knowledge.

Young people should not overlook the importance of intelligence as an instrument toward greater achievement, both for individuals and the race as a whole.

Labor Contracts In connection with the demands being made by organized labor, as to increased wages, hours and guaranteed employment, it is well to take note of the proposal of various employers that, in return, labor guarantee that there will not be stoppages of work.

Tough On The Fish Officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service are afraid, if the Navy tests the atomic bomb, that large numbers of commercially important fish may be destroyed.

The necessity for such a test, however, seems absolute. It is very important to know the effect of atomic bombs on warships and because the facts developed may guide our national defense policies, and thus save lives, we see nothing to do but to blast the fish.

AIRMAN DISCHARGED PATTERSON FIELD, Ohio Sgt. Harry Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Roberts of Birmingham, Mich., received his honorable discharge from the Army Air Forces at the Separation Base here recently.

He spent 18 months overseas, and he holds the American theatre of operations ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Victory Medal. His last assignment was at Romulus Army Air Field, Mich., where the 3rd Ferrying Group of the Air Transport Command, is situated.

Household Goods of any kind are easily sold by using the Eccentric Classified Ads!

"War Scare" Was Real California on the night of February 24-25, 1942, when the people in the Los Angeles area wondered about a black-out and anti-aircraft firing.

Gen. John L. DeWitt, who commanded the California area at the time, says that in his opinion, three planes which appeared over Beverly Hills "were launched from submarines somewhere close into shore under our detectors."

The night before oil derricks and docks at Elwood, California, were bombarded by a Japanese submarine, listed in naval documents as carrying an aircraft and a catapult. During the night, naval intelligence advised that an attack could be expected during the next ten hours and the Army reported sighting many blinking lights and flares near defense plants, aircraft factories and oilfields.

We remember that the black-out and anti-aircraft fire, at the time, were attributed to the desire of military officials to create war atmosphere along the West Coast. While the mystery of the unidentified planes has not yet been cleared up, the official information seems to indicate that the alert was well-timed and that some apprehension of an attack along the coast was justified.

To Build Super-Liners The Maritime Commission plans to build eleven luxurians super-liners which will be faster than the best American ships in sea area and will carry the American flag on the seven seas.

The Commission has \$225,000,000 available to build the liners which are expected to give us a preeminent position in foreign trade. The vessels will cruise at twenty-nine knots or better. This compares with a present best of twenty-one knots.

The ships will be designed to accommodate about one thousand passengers. This will be nothing like as large or as fast as the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, but reflects the trend towards medium-sized vessels which are more economical to operate.

IRONICAL ANTITHESIS: To make your dreams come true, you must remain wide awake.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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Peace—Ain't It Beautiful?



Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO Dec. 5, 1895 "The electric road will bring all our friends out from the city and we must put on our best. When the ice house is moved we can have the nicest water works grounds in the country."

"A woman may vote as a stock holder upon a railroad from one end of our country to the other. But if she sells her stock and buys a house with the money, she has no voice in the laying out of the road before her door which her house is taxed to keep and pay for."

"I'll pay you to go to the doll show tonight to hear the singing, to see the booths, and most of all to see our ownest own nicest girls who have charge of them. The finest doll in the hall can be had for five cents if you only guess her name."

"Hall's Hair Renewer is pronounced the best preparation made for thickening the growth of hair and restoring that which is gray to its original color."

"Oh, say! Did you ever consult an Oulja board, or Planchette? The answers that are received are surprising, wonderful, startling, mysterious, and are believed. Some one or two are developing as great workers on Planchette and Oulja."

"About 300 miners of the Colquhoun Coal Co. are out on a strike against a reduction of wages."

"In place of the stone pile it is said that hobos who stop at Manistee for winter quarters will have to work on the poor farms."

"There is a society in Egypt whose object is to drive foreigners out of the country."

"It is so true that English has become the fashionable language of the Russian court."

20 YEARS AGO Dec. 4, 1925 "Disaffection with the 'practical' working out of the stop signs erected at the corner of Woodward and Maple avenues caused the village commission Monday night to order an overhead, electrically-operated traffic sign, one of the three color kinds used in Detroit."

"At the Baldwin High School next Tuesday from 2 p. m. to 8 p. m. property owners of Birmingham will be given an opportunity to accept or reject one of the most important issues that has ever confronted them—the bond issue of \$54,500 proposed by the board of education to purchase an addition to the site of the Hill school between Martin and Merrill streets and extending westward toward Baldwin park on Southfield avenue."

"But for those whose hearts are right, every day is Golden Rule day and every week is Golden Rule week."

"Former Kaiser Wilhelm is able to saw wood again at Doorn, but is permitted to work only an hour a day."

"Nine out of ten Germans who own automobiles employ chauffeurs to operate them."

"A new device, resembling an alarm clock, has been devised to turn a radio set on or off at any time desired."

People's Column

To The Editor: OPEN LETTER TO SPEAKER'S BUREAU COMMITTEE PROGRAM SERIES

As one who attended the lecture by Professor Maynard C. Krueger of the Community Forum on November 27th, I wish to make a suggestion for future programs. I believe that no audience, unless fairly presented to them, can get a full understanding of any subject unless all views of that subject are fairly presented to them. This can seldom be done by one man, and hence I suggest that your lectures would be more valuable if you present a fever of them but made them better and more interesting by having two men present, opposing views. Perhaps even a true panel discussion by local experts would be of more value than a one-sided presentation by a single lecturer."

To be more specific, Professor Krueger made a persuasive presentation of the economic view, based on Marxian theories, that we can, if we let the proper people do the "planning," have permanent prosperity in this country by the simple device of sharing the wealth. As for international affairs, he would insure active world trade and promote good will by having the United States give away its gold. I disagree with both of these views and I am sure a more conservative economist could have convinced a majority of the audience that these views are unsound."

Personally I believe in the Christian idealism to which Professor Krueger subscribed, but I am convinced that these ideas cannot be fully applied until a majority of the people are willing to practice them. This applies on all levels, local, national and international."

What would happen in Birmingham if we decided to immediately apply these ideals by making an equal per capita distribution of all real estate, businesses, and money and by disbarring our police department? (The Professor's theory also requires this latter step.)

This type of experiment has actually been tried many times in this country, and all who have read history know that every such experiment has ended in dismal failure. Yet the theory is so simple that it is being tried again and again each generation must try the experiment. Our civilization has been built chiefly by the preservation of

written records so that each new generation can profit by the experience of past generations. A backward country like Russia may ignore important lessons from the past, but I have sufficient faith in the common sense of the average American to believe that we will not make the same mistake when he knows all the facts. I think the Community Forum Series can become a fine institution if it seeks to present all sides of any chosen subject so that the audience can reach an intelligent judgment.

Carl B. Lutz, Waddington Road.

Local and Long Distance Moving STORAGE BIRMINGHAM 10240 GAUKLER Storage Co. 9 Orchard Lake Ave. BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM MOVERS MOVING • STORAGE • CRATING 277. PIERCE ST. PHONE 1343

THERE ISN'T ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE

Court Of Honor Is To Be Held Dec. 17 Boy Scout Troop B-5, sponsored by the Men's Club of Christ Church Cranbrook, will present its first court of honor of the 1945-46 season on Monday evening, Dec. 17, at 8 p. m. It will be held in the gymnasium at Quanton School, the regular meeting place for the troops. Everyone interested in Scouting is invited to attend.

Awards will be made to over twenty-five members of the troop for various achievements, such as attainment of rank, earning of merit badges and participation in special events. The troop is experiencing an enthusiastic year and an interesting evening has been planned for acknowledgement of the boys' accomplishments.

There's always a soda at the drug store for Junior when Sister's beau comes calling. There isn't room for one more on the sofa. There isn't room for that extra electrical appliance in your home, either—not if you have an inadequate wiring system with overloaded circuits and improper distribution of outlets. It's a comfortable, satisfying home where you can arrange furniture to suit yourself—where the room arrangement isn't dictated by the chance location of outlets. Your home may be an old one, but it can hold all the electrical conveniences of a new one with adequate wiring. You'll want a new frozen-food cabinet, electric range, automatic laundry, electric dishwasher and many other electrical appliances that will make living more pleasant and easier in your home of tomorrow. Be sure of adequate wiring by inspecting it today!

This is one of a series of advertisements prepared in cooperation with the electrical contractors in your area in the interest of insuring adequate wiring for every home. When you build or remodel, be sure your home is properly wired. For wiring recommendations, call your local Detroit Edison office.

Life Insurance Loans Are you paying six per cent on your life insurance loan? You can save on interest charges by refinancing at lower rates at your "friendly bank."

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING

THE DETROIT EDISON

"60,000,000 JOBS" By Henry A. Wallace Secretary of Commerce and Former Vice President Can a peacetime goal of 60,000,000 jobs be attained in America without disastrous inflation, a rigidly planned economy or an unbalanced budget? Secretary of Commerce Wallace thinks so and offers facts and figures to verify his assertion. Read this sensational best-seller by Henry A. Wallace on the biggest of the nation's problems. It is now appearing Exclusively in The Detroit News THE HOME NEWSPAPER A. W. FEILER Birmingham Dealer 280 Hamilton Phone 175

"A FRIENDLY BANK" WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING

THE DETROIT EDISON