

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

“Conqueror” Disappears

In his first proclamation to the German people, General Eisenhower declared: “We come to conquerors,” and many commentators in this country expressed their satisfaction, asserting that the General was talking to the Nazis in a manner they could understand.

What Took So Long?

The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission in their long-pending freight case, seems to confirm the contention of Southern and Western states that existing rates were unduly favorable to the Eastern section of the nation.

Prescribing a uniform scale of class rates for the entire country, east of the Rocky Mountains, the Commission said that “all of the railroad rates under investigation are found unreasonable, and certain railroad class rates are unduly prejudicial.”

In addition, the Commission said that “as a result of the present investigation, the railroad freight classifications are found to be unreasonable and unduly prejudicial as a whole, and to the extent that they are not uniform.”

The conclusions reached by the Interstate Commerce Commission are a condemnation of the railroads serving the South and the West but it is also a condemnation of the commission itself. Here is a body which is supposed to function in an economic field to prevent injustice and yet, for years, complaints from the South and West were entirely unavailing.

CAPTURED HERMANN GOERING MANAGED to gather an art collection worth 200 million dollars. That's at least a little too spacious a collection to drape upon the Goering carcass, large as that is.

WITH MEATLESS MENUS STARING INTO the stomachs of our people these days, no doubt the vegetarians are getting many chuckles.

REMEMBER THAT OLD SAW ABOUT “WHY DOES a chicken cross the road?” If chickenless days continue, maybe that question will become only historical.

JOHN BARLEYCORN, IN MICHIGAN, GETS THE niery run-around. Michigan has a Liquor Control Commission, appointed by the Governor, to handle this problem; now Gov. Kelly wants to appoint a new three-man board to handle violation cases. Can't your Commission do its own job, Governor? Why the New Deal method of “more hours and commissions”?

U. S. Submarine Record

The war in the Pacific has reached the stage where it is possible for the submarine which has driven Japanese shipping off the seas, penetrated into the home waters of Japan and now enforce a blockade that seriously interferes with the enemy's war effort.

Everybody is familiar with the menace of German submarines in the Atlantic, with losses that run as high as 1,000,000 tons of shipping a month, but few Americans realize that our submarines in the Pacific war have sunk a greater amount of Japanese tonnage.

The submarine service has always attracted a large number of brave American sailors. The officers and men leave port and move into the inner recesses of Japanese waters to attack the vulnerable shipping lanes and resources of Japan. The last word heard from some of them was upon their departure—the silent service cannot make reports while on a mission in enemy territory. Those that do not return are usually listed as overdue and presumably lost.

In handing out bouquets to the brave men of the American Army, Navy and Air Force, it will not do to make special claims for any group, but by the same token, the service of all groups must be fittingly recognized. This applies to submarine crews.

IF THOSE JAPS DON'T INTEND TO QUIT in the near future, American ingenuity will manage to turn their islands upside down, like flapjacks in a pan. Maybe Gen. MacArthur and Adm. Nimitz should give them enough tails to go around, so they could get back into the water where their bestial nature seems to fit them.

THE BEAUTIFUL DETROIT RIVER! WHO WOULD have thought, before this war, that Americans would tunnel under the river to get steaks and other edible stuff for themselves?

ADMITTING THAT THE U.S.A. OUGHT TO TIGHTEN its belt in times of war, did you ever imagine that we'd be so close to food shortages as we are now? This, in large part, is the result of confused bureaucratic planning by people who simply want to plan—regardless of the facts of life.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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This'll Slow Him Down



Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO July 4, 1955

“Base ball Saturday. A good game of ball net Saturday afternoon, weather permitting.”

“Those wishing fresh home pasture call on H. F. Daniels. Our old friend Emanuel Case with us once again and we are glad to see him.”

“Rev. Jesse Kilpatrick is able to be about our streets again and his many friends rejoice thereat.”

“The reception at Mrs. L. Sawyer's home for the Rev. Lee S. McClester, and introducing the new minister, A. Berglund of the Christian Union (Liberal) Society, was a very pleasant affair.”

20 YEARS AGO July 3, 1925

“Entries are being solicited for the Second Annual Horse Show to be held tomorrow by the Juniors of the Bloomfield Open Hunt. The show will begin at two o'clock.”

“New officers were elected at the Tuesday night luncheon of the Birmingham Exchange Club. These officers will serve for a period of six months. R. H. Carson of the Bloomfield Sales and Service, will act as the new president of the organization.”

“Birmingham's First Annual Outdoor Dog Show to be held Saturday, July 11, promises to be of a highly popular nature with three additional prizes added to the premium list.”

“St. Joseph Mercy hospital campaign over Oakland County closed last Monday night with \$286,876 pledged for the building, \$14,000 coming from Birmingham and vicinity.”

“For the first time in ten years Woodward avenue between Pontiac and the Elston Mile road was closed to traffic last Tuesday morning. Thousands of drivers daily are affected by this decision, reached Monday by L. V. Belknap, engineer of the Oakland County Road Commission. Woodward avenue, one of the most heavily traveled roads in the United States will be idle while the work proceeds that is to make it what has been called the ‘world's greatest highway’.”

5 YEARS AGO July 5, 1940

“Birmingham's police chief, John P. Hackett, has had new responsibilities added to his task of maintaining peace and tranquility in this city. He has been elected

LOCAL DOG PROBLEM

Your Warden's story about the cops who had their dog poisoned was touching. Nobody wants to lose a lovable and friendly animal.

But who can deny that these are “dog days” in the “City of Beautiful Homes”? A Detroit reporter referred to Birmingham as the “City of Wandering Dogs.” These poor, untrained animals are to be pitied. They reflect the carelessness of their owners and their disregard of others.

The good man on our city commission spent hours saving and planning the city for better living but pass along the dog responsibility to others who do practically nothing about it. Dog catcher! Sure, but where is he! The police will say they are waiting for complaints, while the wandering dog menace is on every street. These dogs destroy lawns and gardens, raid garbage cans, dirty up hangouts, washings, tear up lawn furniture, keep first sleepers awake, and menace children who play on their own property.

Is there a solution? Either hire a full time dog catcher or have the police round up dogs who are not trained to stay home. Place a stiff fine on the owners of dogs who run loose. If the same dog is picked up three times it is destroyed as a public nuisance.

Some day Birmingham is going to crash down on dogs, after an avoidable tragedy. Why not now? E. C. B.

Lime Keeps Rabbits from Victory Gardens

LANSHING—A Lawrence (Mich.) resident has discovered a means of keeping wild rabbits away from victory gardens that does not injure or destroy the rabbits.

The method is simple: A quantity of hydrate lime is placed in a bucket and fastened on plants, preferably while they are dew-covered. Several applications may be necessary while the plants are in the tender stage when they are most likely to attract rabbits.

The method is offered to the conservation department as a substitute for the system of issuing permits to kill rabbits, thereby destroying a potential meat supply.

The American Red Cross now operates overseas more than 700 clubs, nearly 200 “clubhouses”, the doughnut-dispensing club-

People's Column

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VICTORY THROUGH BONDS

The boys who are fighting we must repay—Do it with War Bonds now, today! Do not forget that thousands will live if that extra War Bond you're thinking of giving.

The boys who are fighting will gladly buy them if it is destroyed as a public nuisance. Some day Birmingham is going to crash down on dogs, after an avoidable tragedy. Why not now? E. C. B.

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Help him get that Long Distance call through tonight. When you let service men have Long Distance lines from 7 to 10 P.M., you make it easier for some sailor or soldier to reach the folks at home. That's the time when thousands of calls from service men and women go out to all sections of the country. *INVEST IN VICTORY—BUY MORE WAR BONDS. MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT. BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING