

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

A Good Teacher For 23 years a certain teaching personality at Baldwin high school has made its constructive impact upon hundreds of Birmingham boys and girls...

We refer to W. S. Toothaker, recently retired science teacher at Baldwin, who came to Birmingham in 1917, during the first world war.

Mr. Toothaker was among the most beloved of all Birmingham teachers. Not only did he know and teach his special subjects well, but he had the rare faculty—so important for teachers—to invest his classroom conversation with philosophy current to the moment.

He was gentle, understanding, a fine friend of all youth. The material reward of teachers is not very great, compared with the returns of many other types of human activities...

So, on behalf of the students he has taught, the parents who have been thus benefited, and the many other groups of society who have been aided by his career, we say: "Well done, good and faithful servant; may your remaining years be bright and happy ones!"

Adequate Protection When aircraft fly from Japan to the United States, it is high time for the people of the United States to realize that their future safety requires complete information about what goes on in Japan.

The same observation applies to the other countries of the globe, even to those now designated as allies. Our security can be assured only by the knowledge that no nation is preparing aircraft, capable of attacking this country, with the developing weapons of warfare.

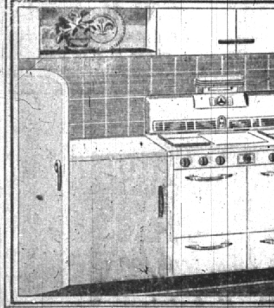
The next way, if it arrives, will begin with an all-out aerial. Consequently, caution requires protection against such assaults and we must have adequate protection regardless of what this takes.

Bans "Uncle Tom's Cabin" It may surprise some readers to learn that performances of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," scheduled for Bridgeport, Conn., have been cancelled, "due to the opposition of the C. I. O., Negro community leaders, the Communist party, and the Bridgeport Pastors' Association."

Years ago the people of the South insisted that the novel misrepresented the institution of slavery and unjustly played Southern character. The book, however, played a role in stirring up emotions before the War Between the States, even if it is not top-notch literature.

The present objectors in Bridgeport have their own reasons for banning the play. It is now said that it "refreshes memories that tend to portray only the weaknesses of a racial minority" and holds Negroes up to ridicule.

AUTHOR TO SPEAK November 2nd at 11 o'clock. From sketches of a Chinese gentleman and his large family; in 1943 and her opportunity to after returning on the second trip of the Grisholm from the East, she wrote her own story of her years in China. Miss Hahn's next book, is a series of people intimately.



The kitchen is the most lived-in room in the house

The Homemaker spends the greater part of her work day in the kitchen—no wonder she smiles with pride when her kitchen is equipped for convenience and comfort. Plenty of cupboard space, a shining sink, a good looking range—and all conveniently arranged to make "Kitchen Time" easy and more enjoyable.

GAS the WONDER FLAME... that COOLS as well as HEATS CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

"Will Remain a Menace"

"Japan must be made to realize in every step of her long road back to acceptance among civilized nations that a Government does not indulge in the excesses she has loosed in the world the last fourteen years and call it quits when her leaders have had enough."

This is the statement of General Jonathan M. Wainwright, after three years and more of experience in Japanese prison camps where he saw them as they are with the veneer stripped off.

Disclaiming a desire for personal revenge, either for himself or his soldiers, the general said that we should treat the Japanese in full accord with the civilized laws of war, but until we can be sure that a Japanese is no longer "a bully with all the bully's smallness and love of brute force to impose his authority," enjoying "inflicting pain, both mental and physical, on anyone who lacks the power to strike back," Japan will remain a danger.

The general says that until we are assured that these qualities have been extinguished—not simply submerged—the Japanese nation "will remain a menace to the world." He calls attention to Japanese cunning to conceal their true nature and how quickly their brutality appears when there is no immediate chance of retaliation.

To Catch Tax Evaders

The Treasury Department is seeking an enlarged force of agents in order to enforce the payment of taxes but Secretary Fred W. Vinson insists that there is to be no general increase in the number of agents.

She who lacks humor is indeed a poor companion.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions of material... Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.



Happenings of Long Ago

80 YEARS AGO November 7, 1865

"There's a fine prospect of much building going on next season." The world advances the son of the boy who cried for a red wagon, cries for a bicycle.

"There isn't much choice between the defeated and the elected candidate in the eyes of the losers who are waiting to be asked to drink after election."

"There are a few vacant houses in town but they are fast being taken. Better secure one soon for it's a fine town to live in."

"The use of Hall's Hair Renewer promotes the growth of the hair and restores its natural color and beauty, frees the scalp of dandruff, itching, and all impurities."

"Residents on Bates street are regaled often evenings by a loving couple who live on the same street, indulging in fond and lasting embraces and the osculatory exercises in fast and furious and soulful music into a cow's foot extracted by manly strength from a play, mud hole."

20 YEARS AGO November 6, 1925

"Based on their reaction upon the fact that Birmingham, during the past three or four years, has shown exceptional business acumen as a municipal corporation, a number of residents of the Birmingham Estates, located just east of Adams avenue and Birmingham, met with the village commission Monday night and expressed themselves favorable to annexation to the village."

"The first meeting of the Village Players of Birmingham will be held on Saturday evening, November 17, at the Community House. Three one-act plays will be presented to the members the first being 'Thursday Evening' by Christopher Morley."

"In order to obtain firsthand information relative to the conduct of a noonday club, especially that part coming under the term 'fellowship,' members of the Birmingham Business Woman's Club will be the guests of the Exchange club at the Lone Pine Tea House Tuesday noon."

5 YEARS AGO November 7, 1940

"Mr. and Mrs. William Story, of North Woodward avenue, Bloomfield Hills, are observing their 50th wedding anniversary to day with an open house in the afternoon and early evening."

"The high spot in the Cranbrook-Kingswood Lecture Series will occur next Tuesday evening, Nov. 12, at 8:15, when Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of President-elect, will lecture at Cranbrook auditorium."

"The best month for building in Birmingham since June, 1936, occurred during October, it was reported this week in the monthly report of Building Inspector James B. Barnes. The total was \$131,140, exceeding even the month of August when the permit was issued for the new theatre."

"The annual Fellowship turkey dinner will be held on Wednesday at the First Presbyterian Church." "Wilmer E. Moody has been elected president of the Birmingham Golf Club, succeeding Ralph E. Wilson who has retired after three years as president and a director for five years."

People's Column Dear Editor: I have been a civilian for just a week. After mending four and a half years in the army and am surprised that the civilians are still griping. I heard one lady complain that she can buy only six eggs at a time. But there isn't anything stopping her from going from store to store and buying all the eggs she can afford. After seeing how the German people eat, I am thankful for anything and the rest of the people would be too if they saw how Europe is eating.

The main meal the Germans eat is usually supper and it consists of boiled potatoes made from the water the potatoes were boiled in, black bread, and a liquid they call coffee. If the people in the United States had that meal 365 times a year they would have something to gripe about. Speaking of eggs, the German people usually get one egg per person a week, if they are lucky! And then, too, they have to wait in long lines to get anything but bread.

Now that I am a civilian I know I will appreciate things that I took for granted before. I hope the returning veterans will wipe up the "stay at home" civilians to the fact that he has everything a person could want and should stop griping.

William E. Terrell, 868 Cox road, Kalamazoo, Mich. Oct. 24, 1945. NO HUNTING—NO TRESPASSING signs on sale at the Eccentric Office. 29-35*

ACME Window & House Cleaning Company Phone 1162 424 PARK STREET BIRMINGHAM "Oakland County's Oldest Window Cleaning Service"

What Your City Government Is Doing... Oct. 18, 1945. Bills approved totaling \$1,484,938. Request by Veterans' Commission for relaxation of zoning ordinance to permit use of homes in single family residential districts as two family homes to accommodate returning service men's families referred to city manager. Special Assessment Roll No. 239 (Chapin Street Sewer, Corp., Curlew and Crawfield Road) received by City Assessor. Hearing to be held Nov. 4, 1945. IRENE E. HANLEY, City Clerk.

Oct. 22, 1945. Bills approved totaling \$12,724.38, including two-week payroll. Request for street improvement on Eckenbrough from Dockersville, Birmingham, and on Buckner from Birmingham, Ala. IRENE E. HANLEY, City Clerk.

A FRIENDLY BANK WABEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

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."

WABEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEK BUILDING

Advertisement for Detroit Edison Co. featuring the slogan 'More POWER for peace!' and an image of a power plant. Text includes: 'Tremendous as were the wartime power needs of the Detroit area, Detroit Edison expects the peacetime demand to be even greater. In anticipation of this, Detroit Edison has a \$125,000,000 expansion program for the next ten-year period.' 'It is now spending \$4,000,000 to complete the installation of a new 100,000-horsepower turbo-generator and boiler in the Marysville power plant. This unit is identical with one which went into action during the war years when the tremendous needs of our war plants for electricity were supplied promptly and completely. There was no "standing in line" for power in the area served by Detroit Edison.' 'When the new machine goes "on the line" sometime in 1946, it will increase the company's total generating capacity to 1,750,000 horsepower—enough to serve all the electrical needs of southeastern Michigan today and tomorrow.'

THE DETROIT EDISON CO.