

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

City Garden Rumors

Local folks who are patriotically laboring over their gardens at places where the federal government will locate gunnery huts for veterans were disturbed last week when they heard rumors that work would begin abruptly, thus ruining some of the gardens. The Ecceentric was contacted by many on the situation, suggesting that perhaps the city overlooked wise public relations by not keeping folks informed as to the hot project.

Not A Judicial Question

The question of ricklessness is not a judicial question, declares the Supreme Court of Florida, in upholding a city ordinance of Miami, prohibiting the employment of women as bartenders.

BIRMINGHAM OBTAINS ITS WATER FROM DEEP WELLS, operated by electrically driven pumps. As the city grows in population, more and more water will be required, right now there is need for another well, which the city is trying to locate.

IF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY EVER TAKES OVER at Washington, D. C., we'll wager that the number of men in past and present high government places who will face trial for grafting and corruption will make the Teapot Dome scandal appear like the theft of a sandwich at a Sunday School picnic.

Masculine Jurisdiction

Some years ago Dr. William Chandler Bagley, who died this month, attacked what was called progressive education, charging that the average child in American elementary schools did not measure up to those in European schools and that American high school students could not read effectively and were not proficient in simple arithmetic and English grammar.

No Connection

An Associated Press dispatch says that in view of the loan to Great Britain, the question now is how much money this nation may be expected to loan to other foreign nations and whether Congress will provide the funds.

ONE OF BIRMINGHAM'S SURFACE PROBLEMS, (but one that goes deeper than you'd think), is that of improving (Oak Street's rough and tumble road. It is a heavily traveled artery of traffic, and we'll bet that there are enough brains in City Hall to find the solution—with, of course, some private citizens helping.

The Birmingham Ecceentric

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NOTE: The Ecceentric is pleased to publish brief contributed material provided it has news value and is not sensational.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO July 30, 1896

"The first efforts ever raised in Birmingham were headed in by F. P. Beckman who has since languished in the yard of this lunatic front. Mr. Beckman had the finest show of small fruits in any county and naturally takes great pride in his success."

20 YEARS AGO July 28, 1926

"Almeron Whitehead, co-founder and president of the First National Bank of Birmingham, died from the city's four wells, it might prove a boon to thirty persons on hot summer days. Fire Chief Vernon Griffith tells the Wanderer that a water temperature at the wells is a nice 49 degrees. This is only about a degree warmer than the water obtained from one of those electrical water coolers some places maintain, yet some 25 degrees colder than the stuff that comes out of the average home's water faucets."

5 YEARS AGO July 31, 1941

"Harold B. Buege of Mt. Pleasant has been appointed advertising manager of The Ecceentric, it was announced today by Geo. R. Averill, Publisher. He will succeed Bert L. Johnson, who is retiring August 9, to take another job."

It's Over Here!



BITS OF BHAM

The Wanderer did a little startling thing last Thursday evening when, strolling near Baldwin Public Library, he heard the plaintive strains of the "Scherzando" suite floating through the windows. Investigation revealed that programs of music on records is a regular Thursday night feature at the library. This week there is to be an all-Ballet program with the Beethoven concerto as highlight. An all-Mozart program is planned for the following Thursday.

If the water coming from Birmingham faucets remained as cold as it was when it was pumped from the city's four wells, it might prove a boon to thirty persons on hot summer days. Fire Chief Vernon Griffith tells the Wanderer that a water temperature at the wells is a nice 49 degrees. This is only about a degree warmer than the water obtained from one of those electrical water coolers some places maintain, yet some 25 degrees colder than the stuff that comes out of the average home's water faucets.

Evelyn Brown, deputy city clerk, was at the Commission meeting Monday night familiarizing herself with current commission business preparatory to taking over Irene Hanley's job while Irene takes a two weeks' automobile trip with a girl friend through the West.

Mayor Milton Maller and Commissioner Ray Palmer were back at the Monday night meeting after a vacation of two weeks. But Commissioner Palmer was absent on his vacation. The Mayor told the Wanderer that during his vacation he only went fishing four times. In all the years he has been trout fishing, he says, he has never

gotten the day's limit of 15 trout. If he comes back with 6 keepers on one day, he said it provided him with a fishing story to last him the next 365 days. He claims to use only dry flies, and will not "cheat" like other fishermen who use such things as wet flies, worms, grasshoppers, and other forms of insect life. We can say now that when his trout fishermen friends learn that he fishes they are getting fish the easy way by resorting to other means than strictly dry-fly fishing, the mayor's duty for a day of heavy argument.

Until we get evidence to the contrary, the Wanderer is going to maintain that Birmingham's Department of Public Works has the most thoughtful, neatest rubbish collection crews of any city in the nation. Due undoubtedly to the strict orders of the City Manager, the crew on each truck has been instructed that none of the refuse spills off the truck onto the city streets. In testimony of the care which the crews take, a woman phoned the Wanderer Tuesday morning to report she watched a crew clean up some glass that had fallen off a truck that morning. "After sweeping it up, they even checked the spot further and picked up any glass particles they might have missed," she declared.

D. A. Bathrick, 245 Pontiac, general sales manager of Pontiac Motor Co., has announced the resumption of Pontiac's monthly dealer conferences to give home office executives a constantly up-to-date check on economic conditions throughout the nation. Twenty-one dealers from Pontiac national sales zones will attend a conference at Pontiac. We are particularly anxious to see that the dealers get first-hand knowledge of the difficulties under which automobiles are manufactured," said Bathrick, who believes the dealers thus will be better equipped to explain the situation to their customers.

THE ECCEENTRIC'S Camera Corner

When it comes to vacation-time snapshots, where are you going to take pictures of people just like those you've been taking at home—or are you going to try to make more story-telling snapshots? Do you plan to shoot scenic snaps just the way most amateurs do, or are you going to try to "frame" most of your subjects as experienced picture takers have found best?

Well, if you're picture-wise, you'll take the latter choice in each case. Because story-telling pictures make the best of all vacation records, "framed" landscapes always look more attractive and have a greater feeling of depth and comparative size than straight scenic shots. What is meant by a "framed" landscape? Well, that means that instead of walking to the edge of a hill and shooting away, the photographer stepped back just a little bit, he found an overhanging branch of a tree, or perhaps an archway formed by the branches of two trees—in our illustration—and thus roughly "framed" and centered interest in his subject.

ANOTHER Giant Cartoon Show This SATURDAY, 9 A. M. BIRMINGHAM THEATRE BUY TICKETS NOW

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Thrilling moment in the 20-year-old film Don Juan, featuring John Barrymore. This was the first full-length sound movie.

The modern movie is 20 years old on August 6

Twenty years ago the movies added sound to sight. DON JUAN was the film. A year later came THE JAZZ SINGER, the first feature to use lip synchronization.

They have contributed greatly to the excellent sound in today's movies. Bell scientists were able to solve the talking picture problem because of their continuous study of every means to improve communication. The "talkies" came directly out of telephone research.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY