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

Thursday, August \$, 1946

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC Will We General Dwight D. Elsenhower, who led our armies for victory? Burope, says that as long as we have the problem of occupying emery countries, the Army will not be able to get along with less than a million men. "If we don't have them," he declares, "we will jeopardize the victory we have won."

The General has just returned from the Pacific. He knows about the conditions in Europe. He points out that the job that the nation must do is immense and that it is "un-fair for the same men to stay on and do it," and, consequently, "we must apread the load and the only way to do this is to secure sufficient men to replace those who will otherwise have to stay in foreign countries.

The situation of the nation, in regard to the possible acquisition of solidiers, is apparent from the statement of Secretary of War Roberts of the stay week showed that only 36,000 men are left in the draft pool and this in a nation of 410,000,000." No wonder he concludes that the Selective Service authorities "are frustrated and helpless."

Tax Increase
Not The Answer
der, may ask an increase in taxes on individuals and corporations "if prices get too far

The idea is to take away some of the spend-ing funds available to individuals and busi-ness in order to reduce the inflationary pres-

we fail to see where it would be reasonable to increase taxation on individuals, many of whom will be hard hit by increased prices, in order to reduce buying power. Individuals on salaries and those with fixed incomes will suffer considerably if there is a sharp increase in prices and their predicament would be considerably aggravated by any measurable increase in taxation.

WHEN THE RECORD OF THE LATE HARRY Hopkins, closest of all FDR's personal friends, is written, we believe that most of his public acts will be shown to have been motivated by "politics." Hopkins, the former social worker, became a politician who thought only in terms of using his public offices to get votes.

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GEORGE R. AVERILL PAUL NEAL AVERILL GEORGE WM. AVERILL HAROLD P. BUERGE

Local Street
Improvements the City's attitude tostreet improvements the City's attitude toward payment for or
street improvements should be changed? At
present, the usual procedure is for the City's
activated to a street for improvements if the petition is
granted, a special assessment district is set up,
confined to an area presumed to henefit most
from the projectal assessment district is set up,
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this partion being considered a
studied benefit most areas where the
special project owners, who believes that the
present City position on street improvement
antiprated, and resultabiling its letter sent
us, written by one of Birmingham's substant
ala property owners, who believes that the
present City position on street improvement
is antiquated, and resultabiling little being done
to improve local streets.

"We are reprinting this letter, and suggest
that you send us your own reactions on the
subject, here is the letter:

"There, is a good deal of interest in this
matter, not only in the northwest section of
town but in other parts, too. It is a healthy
interest, and not signalized by animosity or
sectional feeling.

"In this connection, I have heard several
persons suggest that the time has come for
the city to look upon the whole problem of
modernization, including paving, in a broadtion about "Who will pay—and how much'
is at once raised.

"My own point is that the One Street in."

tion about "Who will pay—and how much? is at more rised. "My own opinion, which is shared by int least some others, is that the Oak Street improvement is one of importance to the entircity and that the cost probably should be spread on the general rolls. Other substantial improvements might be similarly treated. The habit of doing these jobs in bits and pieces and trying to justify the placing of, heavy costs on the immediately adjacent property is archiea and unrealistic. "Let's look at two recent examples: In the case of the paving in my own neighborhood, now under way, the city commission decided that the city had a very minor interest—fifteen percept—and that the property owners in the neighborhood should bear the burden otherwise.

ifteen percent—and that the property owners in the neighforhood should bear the hurden otherwise.

"In the case of the widening of Maple Street, downtown, the commission first thought that the city should pay 25 per, cent, then after a few sharp words from the merchants deedded that 50 per cent would be all right, and now has decided that the city should pay for the paying of the street after widening, following a protest from merchants.

"I for one believe that the city should pay all of the cost, and that we all should share. If further feet that the downtown mechants should have shared the cost of the paying the property of the paying the should be should have shared the cost of the paying the paying the should be should also be should also be should have shared the cost of the paying the should have shared the cost of the paying the should have shared the cost of the paying the should have shared the cost of the paying the should have shared the streets.

"Personally, so only one clitteen, I don't like to shout and wrample. I believe that as an editor, however, you could do a great service to the community by thinking out loud about these things, and by trying to change the "established procedure." A trouble with testablished procedure is that the defender of it feels its merits are beyond debate."

What do you think on the subject?

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Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO August 6, 1898

"Jacks the skulker's creating a reign of terror in our village and a reign of terror in our village and at least the state of the state

of making a century run and we think they can if they try.

20 YEARS AGO
August 5, 1926

"With this issue, Raymond Girardin, for the Pontiac of the editorial staff of Police Hacket's companied to the publicity of the Pontiac of Police Hacket's conformation of the Control of Police Hacket's conformation of Police Hacket's conformation of the Control of Police Hacket's conformation of the Control of Police Hacket's conformation of Police Hacket's conforma

5 YEARS AGO
August 7, 1941

"Talk august 7, 1941

"Talk august 7, 1941

"Talk august 7, 1941

"Talk august 7, 1941

when getting dressed Just before the wedding! When getting dressed Just before the wedding he discovered that the tallors had pulled the trouser leg twice and the other root at all. Much scurrying around was done to get the proud father into proper clothes so he could ter not an hour later."

"Ray A. Palmer, who surprised everyone with his marriage two weeks ago, is home with his bride, and he attended the City Commission was also and surprised everyone with his marriage two weeks ago, is home with his bride, and he attended the City Commission and Board and the commission of the commission and Board concess of opinion was suggested by the Commission Monday night." Two problems have barred commission words the commission of assessed values within the City, resulting in a cut in school income; pressed alarm over the reduction of assessed values within the City comparison of the constructs new sewer on Martin street, alongside the High School." In hoth instances the City Commission that the differences

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contrib-uted material providing it has new value; and suggestions dically so that they conform to general newspaper style. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any serson, firm or corporation which may corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher. Veterans Meeting to Be Held on Friday

Editor and Publisher Business Manager Managing Editor

There will be a veterans meet-ing at Troy township hall Priday, August 9, at 7:30 p. m., to organ-ize all Troy township veterans of all wars and to build and main-tain a club for the benefit of the veterans. The inne

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Uncle Sam's Bodyguards



People's Column

Open Letter to the Meanest Mar

FOX AND HOUNDS INN
JOHN INGLESON, Prop.
JOHN INGLESON, Prop.
Woodynate at Long take Rd.
Sundays—12:30 until RMS
Sundays—12:30 until RMO p.m.
Week days—5:30 until 11:00 p.m.
Mondays—Closed All Doy
Fine B ham 3200

Boy Scouts Spend Week In Woods On Camping Trip

A week', life in the north woods

—lesping all meals in the cooking
and eating all meals in the cooking
and eating all meals in the cooking
was the experience of Boy Scout
Troop B-12 of Holy Name parish,
Birmingham, during a trip to Higgrin Lake State Fark, near Higgrin Lake State Fark, near Higgrin Lake State Fark, near Lended
outdoor movies of wildlife
and awimping tests at the lake, attended outdoor movies of wildlife
and awimping tests at the lake, attended outdoor movies of wildlife
Come Refuge, 20 miles southeast
Come Refuge, 30 miles southeast
Come Refuge, 30 miles southeast
Come Refuge, 50 miles southeast
of deer and fawns come to the
condicted to be fed and petted,
delighted the Scouts.

One Cassalty
It also resulted in the expedi-

Justin P. Buckeridge 507 Brookside

s, adg. 3. Sectiming Section and Assistant Secutimaster Dunn were in charge. Scotts I fog the trip weets George, Dund dichard Haipin, Ronnie Karl Skibs, Robert Granda, Jücsely, Edward Stenger, Tho Lerance, Eugene- Skiffington Donald Dupnis.

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