

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

Too Many Words

Even though you may have heard Mark Twain's "Sermon to Salesmen," it will do you no harm to read it again. Mark wrote: "The pastor was the most eloquent orator I ever listened to. He painted the benighted condition of the heathen so clearly that my deepest compassion was aroused and I resolved to break a lifelong habit and contribute a dollar to preach the Gospel."

Almost Worth Having

Maj. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, the army's expert on the atomic bomb, was recently asked whether there was a possibility of an atomic bomb explosion setting off a chain of chemical reaction that would destroy the earth. The officer replied that he wasn't worried about it and that his best advisers did not think that this was a real peril. However, he added, "If it happens, it will be all over—and we won't have to explain that one."

Predicts Horrible Warfare

It's a black picture that Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault paints for the nation as he looks ahead to the possibility of another war. "The general says that the United States should 'go underground and go fast' as a defense against the atomic bomb and that we have 'twenty-five years to do the job' of building for peace and preparing for war. 'The next war,' says the veteran leader of a part of our air forces, 'will come instantly' and 'anything left above ground cannot withstand it.'"

"Charity Begins..."

"Man must conquer himself," asserts a brother looking to world peace and the solution of problems that bedevil mankind. The statement is true but the interested will naturally wonder just how man is to "conquer himself." The explanations will vary with the nationality, religion and experience of those giving the elucidation. "It might be a good idea for some of us to try this business of conquering ourselves, which means in essence the control of selfishness, upon a small scale, say at home, or in business affairs. Maybe, by giving some of our means and time to the development of Birmingham, its resources and its people we will able to approach the larger questions which cross boundaries and face the difficulties of misunderstandings based upon ignorance and prejudice as well as greed. It should not be assumed, however, that the individual, by becoming exceedingly generous, can settle all issues. There must be reciprocity on the part of at least a considerable portion of the human beings that make up the population of the globe. It cannot be asserted at the present time that the prospects are all bright, but all of us, as individuals, can make a try at beginning the process."

Balanced Lives

Nearly everybody has heard about a balanced diet but not so much attention is being paid to the advisability of leading a balanced life. The erratic and fanatical behavior of those who are unable to govern life, however, is not enough to upset the equilibrium of the human race which merely gives a passing glance at the performers and their antics. The balanced life includes not only the tempered expression of personality but also the philosophic viewpoint that enables one to retain perspective in the midst of emotional excitement and irrational conduct.

ANY HONEST OBSERVER OF THE AMERICAN scene these days must admit that we have become dominantly, a nation of "gimmies." To that extent we are soft. The same softness is revealed in our international relations, especially with Russia. Assumed to be the richest, mightiest nation on earth, we are, in reality, acting as though we were weak—which we really are not; we're just soft.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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"Well, Where've You Been All My Life?" Tax Deputies Are Busy In County



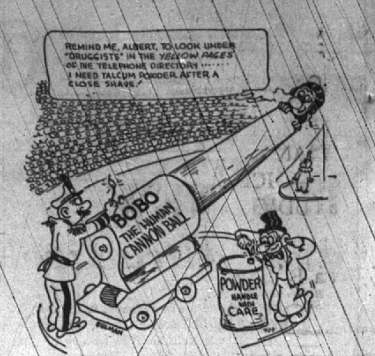
Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO Feb. 6, 1896 "Do not fail to attend the first maple syrup social of the season at the M. T. church February 12th. Ten cents for warm biscuit and maple syrup." "Bicycles will be more numerous next season than ever." "The Freshman class will give a 'Match Social' at the residence of Wm. C. Jenks Friday evening, Feb. 7. Everybody welcome." "The class will meet with Mrs. Marsh next Monday evening. Reading from 'Macbeth.' Current items for roll call with a ten minute discussion of the Manitoia school question." "Mr. Eccentric, it seems to me if the city fathers would let lamps burn as long as they let them keep burning, they would seem much fairer. They economize in one way only. The lamps take dime, but they take dollars and cents and lives. Not someone light up his voice for light, more light?" "A Recliner." "They do say an electric car was run out to Royal Oak last Saturday, Feb. 1, crowded with passengers and that the trip was completely successful in every particular and that there not been those sound cars on the track that car would have come clear out to Royal Oak." "The Eccentric brings you these hints from Paris: Straps are the fashion of the moment. The Bib front is exceedingly stylish. Mohair cravats, Robertino jackets and the new fashion neck trimmings are in evidence. The Marie Antoinette skirt is new, but it is not adapted for all figures; it is shirred or plaited on the hips and flares widely at the foot; sometimes an ungodly amount of breadth of a different material is introduced, shaped to the figure by scanty garters." 20 YEARS AGO Feb. 5, 1926 "What is touted by the outstanding entertainment event of the year will be staged in the Baldwin auditorium Thursday evening, April 8, when a decidedly modern musical comedy, under the auspices of the Birmingham Rotary club, will be put on for the benefit of Oakland county crippled children. A year ago a fashion show was staged for the same cause." "Alton Packard, the cartoonist and humorist, who will appear on the Lyceum course here February 5 in the Baldwin Auditorium, has a nationwide reputation of giving a program full of real fun and humor." "Mr. Thomas Lytle, for the past 11 years a member of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, this week announced his intention to seek re-election on the Republican ticket at the coming general elections." "From all appearances Mrs. Virginia Hewitt, who lives on Oakland avenue, will succeed Mrs. Wilson as township treasurer at the annual election in the spring." "Certified accountants have just completed the annual village audit of the Village of Romeo. Charles Plumstead's books. They reported them in excellent condition." "The annual dinner of the new Father and Son banquet, sponsored by the local V.M.C.A., to be held in the Baldwin Auditorium next Thursday evening are about completed, and due to the untiring efforts of the committee, Wm. Wenzl, Mr. Lynd and Mr. Hart, 500 fathers and sons will be treated to a program that will live long in their memories." "Tomorrow night there will be another of the delightful dances given during the past months at the Community House for the County. The Community House Royal Oak Club Orchestra will play, and its leader is promising another fine evening of music. All unmarried people over 16 years of age are cordially invited to come and have a good time." 5 YEARS AGO Feb. 6, 1941 "The city's new roller skating rink allegedly creates noise which may bother patrons of the new Bloomfield Theatre when it has patrons. It was charged in a letter to the City Commission read Monday night." "The bus, which for the last four Saturdays means children's concerts of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, has taken Birmingham

Tax Deputies Are Busy In County

Charles H. Smith, division chief for this area for the Internal Revenue Department, says calls for attention to the arrangement for the visit of deputies to various cities and towns in the county during February and March. A deputy has been in Royal Oak, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and today will be at the Orionville State Bank. Tomorrow there will be a deputy at the Troy Township Hall and on Monday work will be carried on at Berkey City Hall. Rochester will be visited on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 12 and 13, at the Thursday and Friday, Feb. 14 and 15, the deputy will be at the Farmington Municipal Building. On Monday, Feb. 18, taxpayers may meet the deputy at the Taylor's garage in Walled Lake village and on Tuesday and Wednesday at the Royal Oak Township Hall, 26337 John R. The next stop will be at the Southfield Township Hall, 10 1/2 Miles road and Berg road, on Feb. 21. Birmingham is to be visited on Feb. 23 and 24, after which being provided in the Municipal Building. Next on the list will be Lake Orion with its office being in Anderson's garage on Feb. 27. The following day work will be carried on at the Midland village office. The March dates include March 1, South Lyon Bank; March 4 and 5 at Oxford Savings Bank; March 6, Rochester; and March 7 and 8, back at Royal Oak, using the Veterans' Hall, Main and Second streets. STUDY VETERANS' AFFAIRS A Seminar on veterans' affairs, designed to educate the life insurance agents and key individuals in the industry and service organizations who are in contact with large numbers of servicemen and women in Detroit and the State of Michigan, in assisting those returning servicemen on their National Service Life Insurance program, will be held by the Detroit Life Underwriters Association on Saturday at 9 a. m. Feb. 8, at Rackham Auditorium, Detroit. It was announced today by James E. McCann, president of the organization.

That article you failed to find in the stores may be available in the Classified Ads. 63,922 STATE OF MICHIGAN-In the Probate Court for the County of Oakland At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, on the 24th day of January A. D. 1946. Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate. In the Matter of the Estate of Jessie K. Wix, Deceased. Let C. J. Joly, Jr., administrator with will annexed of said estate having filed in said Court his First and Final Account and petition for the examination and allowance thereof; determination of the said said account; and the discharge of said administrator with will annexed. It is Ordered, That the said account be and is hereby approved for hearing said petition. It is Further Ordered, That the public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks, in the Detroit Free Press, a newspaper published and circulated in said County of Oakland, Michigan, in the Probate Office, and for said County, to change my name and the name of my wife from Anthony Frank Grandacki and Nora Jean Grandacki to Anthony Frank Grandacki and Nora Jean Grandacki. J. JOYLY, JOYLY & JOYLY 1710 Balfour Building, Detroit 26, Michigan. Ec. 15-46-47



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THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Keep your camera loaded and ready for action, and you'll never have to pass up grand opportunities for fine photographs. Remember, a loaded camera practically guarantees pictures during the daytime, but unless you want to go in for very long time exposures you'll need an artificial illumination—such as flash and flood lamps—as a sure thing. A little later on, when your dealer once again is able to carry on the ample stock of color film, you will want to keep a roll of color film in hand, too—so that you can capture, in just the proper way, those scenes that are so beautiful that a snapshot is a full-color treatment. Just now there's a color film shortage, and that's the color film shortage, and that's the color film shortage. Don't let yourself get caught short photographically if you make the proper preparations now, you'll be ready at last. Whatever picture comes along. John van Guilder

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