

County OPA Chief Asks Closer Study Of Price Control

The public's lack of information regarding the Office of Price Administration is amazing, said Robert L. Fox, chairman of the Oakland Price Control Board today in a statement to The Birmingham Eccentric.

"Unfortunately for the OPA and the public as well, a wide variety of half-truths and propaganda is being handled, about without any respect for fact. Perhaps no gentler harm is done when people monger the rumor that we have a shortage of nylon because the OPA is shipping them abroad. However, this is a double falsehood, first, because the OPA does not export commodities, and, second, because the nylons are not being shipped in any appreciable quantity.

"Nor, I suppose," said Mr. Fox, "is there a great deal of harm done when the OPA is blamed for a shortage due entirely to demand being greater than supply. Such accusations are mild compared with the invective which was hurled at us during the days of rationing."

"But when landlords are unaware of the fact that they can get rents raised when they are really operating under a hardship; when manufacturers do not know that the regulations provide for price increases; and, when consumers are unaware of the procedure for handling their complaints on being overcharged, then the fight to hold the price line against inflation becomes tremendously more difficult.

"It has been proven time and again that when Americans understand the reason for a regulation they will comply with it nearly 100 per cent. Right now we need that sort of compliance for price control, because it is the most important economic factor facing the American people today. Unless price control is a success, we may encounter chaos that will make previous depressions look like tea parties. Whether it is a success depends almost wholly upon the people, an enlightened people."

Papa's Unappreciated Junior: "Dad, the teacher said she didn't like my answer on the English question, I can't see why. It was the answer you gave me."

Dad: "Well, what was wrong?"

The teacher says the plural of "whim" is not "women."

Al Watrous Expected At Atlanta Tourney

Al Watrous, of Oakland Hills Country Club, and Sam Byrd of Englewood are expected to take part in the Masters of Golf Tournament at the National Golf Club, Atlanta, Ga. Another expected to be in on this tourney is Chick Herbert, the new Meadowbrook pro.

Watrous qualified for the Masters by finishing among the low scorers in 1942, also as runner-up in last year's National PGA at Dayton. The last eight in the PGA are eligible, which lets in Claude Harmon, former Lechmoor pro, if he decides to enter. Harmon was a semi-finalist at Dayton.

Watrous, for years a regular at Augusta, has been promised one of the places reserved for past National Open champions, quite a few of whom have ago retired from competitive golf. Among the latter are two Detroiters—Walter Hagen and Alex Ross. Hagen will be there as a spectator, making the trio with J. Runkell Gnaur.

Future Farmers of America Meet the President



President Truman greets national officers of the Future Farmers of America at the White House. Left to right are Virgil Getto, Fallon, Nev.; Eugene Starkey, Orlando, Calif.; Mr. Truman; J. Glyndon Stuff, Polo, Ill.; Joseph E. Eney, Maryville, Mo.; Marion Baumgardner, Wellington, Tex.

Local Rotarians Plan Three Local Youths To Attend Convention Play In M.S.C. Band

Birmingham Rotarians, who plan to attend Rotary International in Atlantic City, June 3 to 7, have been invited to make the trip about the Detroit special train. Later among the delegates thus far are Mr. and Mrs. Harry K. Bissett, Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Edest and Mr. and Mrs. Frances S. Hascal.

Completed plans for the trip are expected to be made this week, according to Mr. Bissett, who announced the news at the Rotary Club luncheon.

Rotarian Dick Hedke, a past president of the Detroit club, is a candidate for international president for the 1948-49 Rotary year.

Three Birmingham young men are members of the Michigan State College 60-piece band, which presented a winter concert Sunday, March 10, at the college auditorium. Playing with the band were Francis Buckridge, Harold Jones and Byron Wak.

Buckridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Buckridge of 507 Brookside avenue, is a chemistry major. Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jones of 383 Piery avenue, is majoring in music. Wyatt, son of Herbert Wyatt of 18426 Devonshire road, is majoring in electrical engineering.

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H. Dale Rue Tells of Trip to Holy Land

Editor's Note: This is the final chapter of H. Dale Rue's story of his recent trip to the Holy Land. Mrs. Rue has left to join her husband in Africa where he expects to be stationed for some time. His story follows:

"The road down which we traveled toward Jericho had been prepared by the British when they expected Rommel to break through at El Alamein. The road was terrible and across the mountains at the top we saw cliff-dwelling monks living in buildings cut into the sheer side of the cliffs and accessible only by rope ladders. After driving through the rich banana groves in the valley, we found a disappointment: the dirt little muddy stream was! We drove back by way of the Dead Sea, which is several hundred feet below sea level and has a salt content of about 33 1/2 per cent.

Roads Are Crowded

"We returned to Jerusalem about 4:30 and while Mr. Ramsey attended a meeting at the 'Y,' I addressed 21 post cards to be mailed on Christmas morning. We left the 'Y' at 5:30 and drove to the American Colony for sandwiches with Mr. Ramsey before getting an early start for Bethlehem.

"The Field of the Shepherds program at 8 o'clock was conducted by the British Army chaplain. As a result they transported several thousand troops out over those little narrow roads. There were literally thousands of lorries and convoyes of all types, and the congestion was so bad that when we finally got our car parked by special privilege in the courtyard of the Church of Nativity, we decided to stay there and pass up the Shepherd's Feast celebration which we later learned was composed largely of the singing of carols. We did a bit of shopping and spent a couple of hours just watching all the interesting people, thousands and thousands of them, milling about in an impressively orderly conglomeration of humanity.

"At 11 o'clock we went to the St. Catherine portion of the Church of Nativity.

A Real Feast

"At 1:15 Mr. Ramsey stopped by for us and drove to the Khadders' for Christmas dinner. Highballs were served before we ate, then we sat down to one of the finest meals I have ever eaten. The first course was a most unusual Egyptian salad made of two types of beans and nut meat mixed with a dressing that tasted of mustard. Unusual pickled beets of some sort were served with the salad. Next our plates came on loaded with turkey and a marvelous rich rice similar to fried rice with nuts in it. We next expected a dessert course, when to our amazement another heaping plate was served with spaghetti and a large slice of boiled beef. After that a real American plum pudding, and then a dish of fruit. Bill Dawley was taken ill before he had a chance to eat any of the marvelous food, so we left about 3:30 and got him to bed.

"Mr. Ramsey and I then attend-

ed to the party given by the hostess at the 'Y,' primarily for the boys who live there. At 5 o'clock the carols rang forth from the balcony in a beautiful thrilling recital to climax the Christmas day. It had been a beautiful warm day with brilliant sunshine all day and a temperature of possibly 60 degrees, making it comfortable in the sunshine without a topcoat.

"I decided to forego an invitation to join the Whittings for supper with Mr. Ramsey and was glad I did because Bill Dawley felt after a nap and rest to eat the evening meal at the 'Y,' and I joined him although I had little interest in food after the lavish meal at the Khadders'. We took a short walk through the modern clean business district in the rear part of the city—quite a contrast from the dirty business districts of Cairo—and then were ready for bed at 9:30.

Water is Scarce

"As we left early the following morning, the natives were all out on their way down the roads to the wells with all sorts of bags and cases on their heads to get water at the streams. Water is terribly scarce in the mountains and cities.

"The farms on the hillsides are composed of terraces clear up the hills, made by old stone walls skirting the hills at irregular intervals and olive trees and crops growing in the dirt between the terraces. It is remarkable how virgin the growth is, considering the lack of water. Practically all the moisture for the crops comes from the heavy dew at night.

"As we approached the desert after coming down from the rocky hills that surround Jerusalem and Bethlehem, the farms grew larger. The natives were plowing with camels and using hand-made wooden plows that just scratched the surface to a depth of possibly 2 inches, and the furrows were not more than 3 inches wide.

"A little later we began to see the large black tents of the sheikhs of the tribes, made of material from the hair of the little black goats. The tents were built a considerable distance from the highway and in some places there were dozens of Arabs in groups plow-

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