

National Revolt Outside of purely local issues involved in the recent elections in many States, the voters revealed their long pent-up feelings against too much federal post-war regulation of their daily lives; they also declared themselves disgusted with a lack of leadership in the Truman administration.

In other words, many folks were voting "against the times and conditions in which we live."

That attitude is traditionally a human one, an outlet for which is always provided in self-governing nations whose people are intelligent enough to think and act.

While The Eccentric often has opposed New Deal legislation, and joined with many others in criticizing New Deal "political bunting of issues," we also commended many New Deal objectives—some of which are deserving of perpetuation plus improvement; in this respect we refer to labor and social welfare subjects.

But the time has come, said the majority of people at the recent election, to make a change in Congress; so they gave the Republican Party control of both the Senate and the House.

For the next two years we'll have a Republican Congress and a New Deal administrative office; we trust, for the good of the American people, both groups will submerge mere political partisanship; here is President Truman's great opportunity to reform himself in the minds of the American people.

Newsprint Shortage

While the newspapers of the United States are complaining about the shortage of newsprint, it is worthwhile to note that the United States and Canada, with a population of about 166,000,000 people, consume about two-thirds of the world's newsprint. This leaves one-third for 2,100,000,000 inhabitants of the remainder of the globe.

These facts are noted by Sir Walter Layton, head of the Newsprint Rationing Committee in Great Britain and a publisher of several London newspapers. He points out that world production of newsprint decreased from 8,159,000 short tons before the war to 6,903,000 in September, 1946. During the period, consumption in this country and Canada increased considerably while it decreased in other areas.

Great Britain, which used 1,200,000 tons before the war, now uses 300,000 tons a year. Newspapers which averaged twenty pages were cut to four pages and now, under a rationing system, most of the newspapers are limited to three full-page papers and three six-page papers a week.

This makes it quite impossible, according to Sir Walter, "for British people to be properly informed about either their home or international affairs."

NOW THAT OUR CITY COMMISSION HAS BEEN given the right to acquire, through purchase or condemnation, areas for needed parking lots adjacent to the business section of the community, it is to be hoped that great care will be exercised in this direction. Personally, we believe that our civic leaders possess the intelligence and objectivity to do this very thing.

Up To The United States

Herbert S. Morrison, British official, says that the United States, with their tremendous economic power, "can determine whether the arteries of world trade shall carry prosperity or unemployment and misery into the corners of the earth."

If this statement is correct, and there is little reason to doubt that it is, the welfare of the world and possibly the peace of the world, depends upon the policies to be pursued by the United States.

The responsibility that rests upon those who direct our international policies requires the exercise of far-sighted statesmanship. If this is to be evident in our attitude to other nations, we must forego any idea of economic isolationism and exhibit a willingness to cooperate in the development of the resources of mankind.

If the nation elects to follow such a policy, it must also elect to maintain the military strength that will support such a world program. It cannot be sustained by resolutions, impotent treaties and well-wishes.

Mystery The arrest of a \$5,000-a-year cashier of a large industrial company on a charge of embezzling "close to a million dollars" of company funds is enough to make one wonder how an employee could get that much money out of a company without being caught.

Newspaper articles relate that the accused cashier maintained two cabin cruisers, two new automobiles and had extensive real estate holdings. How responsible officials of the company could believe that the outfit was being financed on a \$5,000-a-year salary is a mystery.

ASK THE AVERAGE BIRMINGHAM CITIZEN WHAT kind of a community he or she lives in and you'll probably get this answer: "A clean, fine, friendly town." One of the many reasons for this is the annual "Welcome Night" for all new residents held in the Community House. Last evening 252 recent newcomers were guests at the House; also present were the leaders of 43 local groups and organizations, including civic bodies. This is the eighth year such a program has been held; it may continue indefinitely.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions of material providing it has news value. Such notices are welcomed. Contributions are usually edited so that they conform to general newspaper standards. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation appearing in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly pointed out upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO
Nov. 26, 1896

"Thanksgiving menu: Cream of chestnuts, croissants, honey, Brussels sprouts, fricassée of oysters, apple and celery salad, turkey, cheese and wafers, roast turkey, giblet stuffing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, diced turnip, new cider, apollinaris, white velvet sherbet, roast duck, currant jelly, Thanksgiving plum pudding with hard sauce, squash pie, mince pie, fruit, nuts, confectionery and coffee."

John H. Snow has the thanks of the feminine branch of this firm for a five-gallon jug of cider made from hand-picked snow apples and bottled in nickel plated bottles upholstered in plush. Long may he reign."

"A pair of brand new rubber boots were stolen from the premises of Thos. Querton on Monday night, Nov. 18. The guilty party would do well to replace them just where he found them or he might be caught. The owner has his eye on you."

"They say that no village in the state has more gentlemen of leisure than ours."

"They say that we have one of the best local papers in the country."

20 YEARS AGO
Nov. 24, 1926

"Jack Miner, nationally famous as a bird lover and authority, of Kingsville, Ont., 25 miles south-west of Windsor, came to Birmingham Monday and in two addresses won for himself a host of admirers, including, as he puts it, 'just boys and girls of all ages.'"

Mr. Miner was brought here through the efforts of William M. Story, in charge of the Rotary Club's boys' work committee, and J. H. Barbour, of Bloomfield Hills, an intimate friend of the lecturer."

"Birmingham Christmas shoppers will not have to travel far to find toys that are 'different' for their children and their friends' children. The art students of the Baldwin Junior High School are making some really unique playthings which they will sell at the Community House Dec. 11 from 2 to 5 p. m."

5 YEARS AGO
Nov. 27, 1941

"Thanksgiving is past and Birmingham stores are blossoming forth with their Christmas merchandise. In the Wanderer's opinion, some of the Detroit stores rushed the season considerably."

Another thing, when you go to Detroit, hunting for bargains, don't forget to figure as part of the cost (1) the time, (2) energy, (3) the feet and headaches, (4) gasoline, parking and lunch expenses."

"There was plenty of excitement and tears at the Clarence Dorsey home, 581 Martin street, last Wednesday night. It involved their son, Clarence, seven years old. Mrs. Dorsey was out visiting and she thought the boy was safely at home. Her husband thought the lad was with his mother. You can imagine how they felt when at 12:30 the boy was discovered missing. Patrolmen Sam Stinson and Edgar Carlson beat the neighborhood, looking everywhere. At 12:15 a. m. a resident at the Southfield apartments found the boy asleep in one of the corridors."

People's Column

"A TALE OF TWO CITIES"
Scene A.—Birmingham, "The Beautiful."
Place—Park in front of liquor store.

1—Matron: Well dressed, bobbed, unruly hair, bright red cheeks and lips (natural?) cigarette dangling from the corner of her mouth. Two bottles of liquor under each arm.

2—Father: With two lovely children being taught how to shop. Father's arms filled with bottles.

3—Mother: With beautiful daughter; repeat color of matron's makeup and add a hard look. Arms loaded with bottles; another child learning to shop.

4—Elderly man: Prosperous looking; loud, telling everyone how he manages out.

Scene B.—Battle Creek. Place—Park at Percy Jones Hospital.

1—Kids: Boys and young men (ex-GIs). No arms for carrying bottles. No legs to get them there even to buy them.

Strong set jaws, clear eyes (filled with pain), lightning. No liquor here to keep up that old morale—just plain "guts."

2—Kids: Because the price of a candy bar (because the Government hasn't gotten around to sending them a yen yet).

Remember how they were to have the best of everything?—Houses, jobs, tools, equipment—nothing was too good for them.

3—Kids: wives, mothers, fathers and sweethearts, sitting in groups dreaming of home. Ad-libs: "The kiddies' eyes—dads fighting and praying for strength to go home."

4—Kids: group and scene would be in mind that will help keep you looking for the future citizens of Ingwald Wagonburg, 1011 Pierce Street.

P.S.—Visit these two beautiful spots and see how life goes on in the good, O. U. S. A.

NEWS COPY must be in The Eccentric editorial offices by 9 a. m. of the day following publication that week. However, only Deadline for CLUB NEWS remains at noon Mondays. adv. if

He Comes Through Again



Lt. C. V. Gardiner Commended For Duty In So. Pacific Area

Lt. Charles V. Gardiner, Jr., of the United States Navy, son of Dr. and Mrs. C. V. Gardiner, 607 Hawthorne street, recently received the Navy Unit Commendation at a ceremony held in Bancroft Hall, U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

He received the commendation in recognition of his services aboard the flagship of Admiral Halsey during the Battle of Empress Augusta Bay in the Admiralty Islands.

Lt. Gardiner was turret officer on the light cruiser with an American task force. During the battle the American task force almost destroyed an opposing Japanese naval

task force, and withstood two air attacks.

Gardiner is now teaching at Annapolis. His wife, the former Patricia Kates, and his son Charles V. Gardiner III, aged 2 1/2, were both present at the ceremony.

He entered Annapolis in 1940 and received his commission as an Ensign in June, 1942, and was shipped to the Pacific. Upon his return from sea duty in June, 1945, he was assigned to the Academy.

Even with the increased taxes included, the consumer pays one-third less today for a gallon of gas than in 1920.

CLASSIFIED ADS must be at The Eccentric office by five o'clock Tuesday of the week you wish them published. You may phone or bring them in.



THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

PICTURE OF THE WEEK. They aren't related, even by marriage, but this mother and spindly make a very pleasing contrast of light and dark and a picture that's hard to beat. Taken on Supreme film with a single open flash at f22. The flash lamp was held several feet to the left of the camera pointing down at a 45 degree angle at the dog. By this sidelighting, the shadow on the wall was thrown to the right where it is inconspicuous and the texture of the fur was brought out strongly.

Do you have to have an exposure meter to get good pictures? Well, yes, and no. That's one of the conundrums of photography. If you are a genius with a box camera, you can go along for years getting salon pictures at the good old average exposure of about 1/16 and 1/25 second. Or, if you're lucky at love and games of chance, you may be able to outguess your camera every time by setting your exposure with your fingers crossed. But, for most of us, that's the hard way.

No, you don't have to have an exposure meter to get good pictures, but it helps some people tremendously. Use one intelligently and you can improve many of your shots. Moreover, where the light is tricky, you'll save enough film that you would otherwise waste to pay for the meter in a short time, particularly if you are shooting motion pictures.

The Photocell Meter The modern photocell exposure meter is a marvelous precision instrument with a little needle that points reassuringly to definite numbers, but it won't do your thinking for you. It is a guide to exposure and not a cure-all. However, there are a number of things to bear in mind that will help keep you on the right track.

Your aim is to measure the light reflected into the camera from the whole scene or the most important part of it. You can often do it from your own experience in the past. You can often do it by the amount of light that you know not always. When you aim your meter at the scene this way,

remember that the reading is merely an average of all the light intensities in it, while the camera is going to record each of them individually. Maybe you want to stress one object. Maybe splitting the difference between readings of a bright sky and dark shadows isn't good enough for the picture you have in mind.

Getting Closeup Readings If it's a closeup you're taking or if the brightness range is extreme or the light comes from behind the subject, you will want a closeup reading of the main object. Make it from the camera angle you intend to use and at a distance from the object roughly equal to its width. With a human face, for instance, that would be about six inches away. A house would be read at perhaps 30 feet. Don't let the meter pick up a reading on its own shadow as you'll be off on your exposure.

If you want good shadow detail in a contrasty scene, take a closeup reading of the darkest shadow in which you want to show detail and use that as the correct exposure.

All this gives us the basic information we want for a negative of quality and average values. But perhaps we don't want just an average picture. Perhaps we want to emphasize a light or a dark feature. The camera is the only teacher for that problem and we will accordingly give a little greater or a little less exposure than the meter suggests.



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