

He that God ever intended man to live without performing continued useful service to his fellow-man. The current tendency to expect a benevolent government to attend to man's creature wants is as foolish as expecting to catch good school marks by letting the teacher do all the studying.

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 26

# The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1946

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## Bits of Birmingham

Students of the Cranbrook Academy of Art are presented to the Wanderer this week the other of these giant cartoon shows for the youngsters will be given Saturday morning, Oct. 12. Better start saving those pennies and nickels, kids.

Here's something that will probably interest Birmingham's veterans. The inactive reserve of the Navy V-4 program is still going at it, with weekly meetings held at the Naval Armory in Detroit. Members get together from 9 to 10 each Wednesday evening to work on the two PG and YMS boats at anchor in the Detroit River. Week ends, the boys take cruises. Not only that, but they get paid for it—one-third of base pay for each meeting. And all ex-servicemen, regardless of rank, status, or branch of service, are welcome to come and putter around with the Navy.

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Howard Holah, manager of the Birmingham theater, revealed to the Wanderer this week that another of these giant cartoon shows for the youngsters will be given Saturday morning, Oct. 12. Better start saving those pennies and nickels, kids.

Birmingham ice skaters will be able to enjoy the facilities of Quanton Lake this winter, Mayor Milton Mailender has indicated in reply to a recent query. "Our original plan for dredging the lake because of the inability to construct a suitable skating rink," he said. "The northern part of the lake has been closed in order to bring the lake level up to normal so it can be used for skating this winter." The Wanderer drove by the lake Monday morning but didn't see any water beginning to form a pool. In fact, the Rouge flowing into the lake appeared to have an extremely slow current. But one good rainfall would provide enough water so it would be back to previous levels—judging from such stormy day this past summer.

An appeal has been sent out from the Birmingham Sideline Quarterback club to try to obtain used football shoes for boys of the Baldwin High School and Barnum Junior High football squads. In a letter to the Wanderer from the president of the organization, W. D. Crim, it is stated that new football shoes are very hard to obtain and the price is very high. Believing that there must be many pairs of these shoes, outgrown or no longer used, lying in closets and attics of Birmingham homes, the Quarterbacks are making an effort to obtain them and turn them over to the boys of Birmingham's football teams. Anyone having a pair of football shoes which he wishes to contribute may contact one of the following Quarterbacks, who will see that they get into the hands of the players who need them: Harold Gasser, 768 Sufferd, phone 3559; Fred J. Zoellin, 710 Hazelwood, phone 901-J; or W. D. Crim, 19481 Beverly road, phone 1481.

Here's a nice gift the Baldwin Public Library should appreciate from someone: the disc volume set of testimony and proceedings of the Nazi Nuremberg war crimes trials. In the Wanderer's opinion, this set would make an excellent reference work for Birmingham residents, and particularly high school students who could examine them during various phases of their school work. The U. S. Government Printing Office is producing these sets which are only \$18 for the eight volumes.

Australians are so proud of their privilege to vote in an election that non-voters may be fined up to \$7 for failing to mark a ballot. In the light of the past years' elections and the sorry turn-outs that have been manifest, the Wanderer wonders that America, "The Cradle of Democracy," may have to resort to it to keep alive our privilege.

Sgt. Al Sundell, Birmingham Army recruiter, now tells the Wanderer that he's back on a one-day-a-week schedule in the local post office. It's Mondays from 9 to 4, he says.

This week the Wanderer has been noticing the rapidity with which the local quonset hut construction is being conducted. If only the nation could complete its country-wide building program in like manner, everyone could have a place to own or rent. Wishful thinking, of course, but certainly something to look forward to.

The Wanderer Tuesday spoke to a young unmarried Birmingham girl who was about to return to

the East to continue her college studies. "Do you think you will learn anything there?" we asked. "No, I don't," she replied. "Then you must be going back to meet your millionaire gas station attendant," we laughed. "Yep, then I won't have to work as I pour a quart of oil in the customer's car," she snapped back.

When Fire Marshall George S. Scott dropped in The Eccentric the other day to issue another warning to Birmingham residents to have their heating plants checked, the Wanderer noticed a gleam in his eye. "Do you know that even the Eccentric didn't pass from a safety standpoint as far as its furnace was concerned?" When the Wanderer professed that it was news to him, Scott continued, "We discovered this fact when we were making a routine check of business establishments." Having corrected The Eccentric's furnace situation, the Wanderer just wants to say that home owners may not be so lucky as we were. While business properties are inspected regularly, residential property is not—unless the resident calls the fire department and requests such an inspection. To put it another way, "A square inch of new furnace pipe is worth a cubic yard of new house."

While last week's edition of the Eccentric was still hot off the press, the high school set grabbed it up and gathered in local drug stores to discuss, rather heatedly, the issue concerning

them, namely, are high school fraternities and sororities to be or not to be? The majority of the defendants seemed more concerned over their activities being noticed in print than in the problem of state and local law. The Wanderer gathers they're pleased to be considered mobs. On the other hand, a number of persons have called to say they backed the stand taken by the editorial. Seems everyone isn't in agreement on a simple fact: either the law or the organizations have gotta go—there's no question about it. Why have laws if you're not going to live by them? questions your Wanderer. Or why have laws on the books that are outmoded, foolish, or not being observed by the majority, depending on your personal opinion of the law?

The Wanderer sees where Hunter or boulevard is getting sprung up by the highway department. There are new white markers on the boulevard indicating each traffic lane. Having observed the traffic which has gone over the boulevard early in the morning or late in the afternoon—plus the Sunday motorists—the Wanderer knows they will be a welcome guide to drivers who have a very difficult time trying to stay in their own lane unless it is distinctly marked.

Frank Whitney, new director of high school athletics, just back

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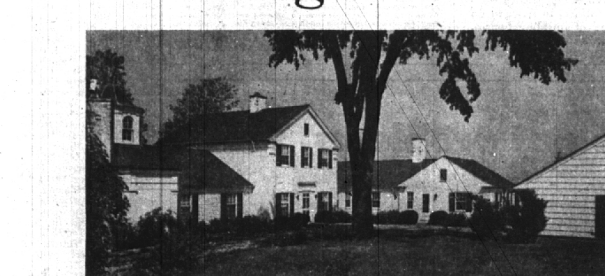
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