

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

PAGE 2, PART 2 Thursday, February 20, 1947 THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

Youth Still Shows the Way

Birmingham's high school girls and boys are to be congratulated on their wholehearted spirit of cooperation concerning the city's high school fraternity-sorority problem and the attempt to solve it.

The proposed plan for a special club director as part of the school faculty seems to be a very possible answer to the problem.

It is especially pleasing to note that a plausible explanation has been discovered when the special "town meeting" held 11 months ago brought forth from many Birmingham parents the contention that illegal or not, high school fraternities and sororities and such secret societies were here to stay.

The cooperative spirit of the younger generation, with their determination to be able to hold social gatherings in a perfectly legal manner, demonstrates to us older folks that by putting aside our prejudices and hidebound ideas, an answer agreeable to most of us can be obtained.

It will be two hundred and fifty years ago next Saturday since the man who is called the Father of his Country, was born. George Washington's fame is not accounted for merely by his achievements, for he, like Lincoln and others, was infinitely greater as a man than was anything he did.

Much that has been written about Washington's ancestry and boyhood is myth or conjecture. This includes the famous "cherry tree" incident. His education was little different from that of other Virginia lads of good family but limited means and it was to his mother, a woman of strong and devoted character, that he owed his moral and religious training.

As the years have passed, the right of George Washington to the high place in the affections of the people of this country has become more firmly established. They have not only brought surer knowledge of the indispensable part he played in creating a nation out of a few scattered British colonies, but they have proved by results, the wisdom of the steady course he steered in order "to gain time" for the newborn commonwealth "to settle and mature its recent institutions and to progress without interruption to that degree of strength and consistency necessary to give it its own fortunes."

BROADLY SPEAKING, THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF elected public officials: one is willing to go to varying lengths to capture votes, even if he has to do what he best thinking tells him to do; the other is willing to stand by his honest convictions, regardless of votes. The latter type is seldom appreciated by the masses, so remains not too long in office.

Marshall Eliminates Himself

General George C. Marshall, who has just taken office as Secretary of State, is entitled to greater respect than ever on account of the straightforward way he handled the question of future political office.

The former Chief of Staff voluntarily advised newspaper reporters that he assumed that the office of Secretary of State is "non-political" and declared that he would govern himself accordingly. He assured the public that he would not become involved in political matters and that, therefore, he could not be considered a candidate for political office.

The astute General is not without knowledge of the speculation that has been going around about the possibility that he might be drafted as a candidate for President. Taking cognizance of this, he declared, "The popular conception that no matter what the man says, he can be drafted as a candidate for some political office would be without any force with regard to me." He then applied the clincher, saying, "I never could be drafted."

India's "Soul Power"

Dr. E. Stanley Jones, a Methodist missionary to India, thinks that India will become a leader of "the subject peoples of the world" because she has gained her ends by "soul power" or the power of the pistol. The gentleman points out that the Western nations, "which have had two World Wars in one generation," can hardly throw stones at India. Apparently, he believes that the Indians have what he calls "soul power," to a greater extent than the Western nations.

In view of the fact that the number of Christians is, at best, only a handful compared with the Moslems and Hindus, we wonder whether the reverend gentleman thinks that the religions of India may have something which the Christian religion lacks.

THE FARTHER REMOVED FROM YOUR FIRESEED an agency of government is, the less you may expect in prompt and honest public service. That is why informed people will tell you that centralization of government is a drift away from true democracy.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 219-222 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11, 12 and 13.

Editor and Publisher: PAUL NAL AVERILL. Business Manager: HAROLD P. BURGER. Advertising Editor: GEORGE R. AVERILL.

Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Post Office at Birmingham, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1917.

Subscription Rates: (In Oakland County) One Year \$2.00, Six Months \$1.25, Three Months \$.75. Outside Oakland County: One Year \$2.50, Six Months \$1.50, Three Months \$1.00.

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions from its readers. We welcome suggestions and are willing to accept them. Any anonymous contributions will not be published. The Eccentric is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material.

BIRMINGHAM MOVERS. MOVING • STORAGE • CRATING. 277 PIERCE ST. PHONE 1343.

PROMPT SERVICE on all makes of Softeners and Filters. BIRMINGHAM WATER SOFTENER SERVICE. Phone B'ham 1068.

ACME Window & House Cleaning Company. Phone 1162. 424 PARK STREET BIRMINGHAM.

PECK'S Cash and Carry. Suits, Topcoats, Plain Dresses \$1.19. CLEANED and PRESSED. Phone 330.

LIBERTY CLEANERS & HATTERS. PHONE 1703. We Call and Deliver.

A SAVINGS ACCOUNT BUILDS FOR YOUR FUTURE. Nearly everyone wants to save... yet many people fail because they don't adopt a definite savings plan.

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT. BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING. (USE ECCENTRIC WANT ADS)

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO February 18, 1897

The 11th of this month it was officially announced that Wm. McKinley was elected President of this great U. S. Now then let prospective voters get a move on very quick indeed.

Judson Backburchough who was convicted of being one of the fellows who robbed Farmer Congleton at Walnut Lake some weeks ago, was here at Jackson in the State Prison. The other two will be caught in time and the old gentleman's wrongs against him far as possible for the law to do so.

For weeks the Birmingham Methodists have anxiously looked forward to the opening of their handsomely renovated auditorium. Last Sunday was the red letter day set for this special service, and a red letter day it proved to be.

The benefits of advertising is again proved by finding the destinations of the letter dropped in by P. O. with only Michigan as the address. The owner wrote from Flint, Mich. for her letter, saying she had noted the announcement in this great moral organ.

20 YEARS AGO February 17, 1927

More than 19,000 persons visited the Community House during the past year, according to the report read by Miss Mary Griffith, house manager of the Community House board meeting Monday night. That number, compared with the estimated population of Birmingham, shows only slightly more than 10,000 give some idea of the importance of the house in Birmingham.

On Washington's birthday, W. W. McAlpine of Ridgeville avenue, will celebrate his own seventy-fourth birthday, strangely enough. Mr. McAlpine's age is the exact count of the 19 grand children, as well as of his two sons, W. S. McAlpine and R. A. McAlpine.

The Father and Son vaudeville given by the Birmingham YMCA in the Baldwin auditorium last Thursday evening was attended by almost 600 guests. The program, under the direction of Charles S. Kinison, proved an entire success according to the enthusiastic applause by the many who attended.

Various interesting phases of a trial against the Birmingham Rotary club health and physical education program may be allowed to satisfy us without much advancement until the next manpower crisis arises.

5 YEARS AGO February 19, 1942

Virginia Boatwick was ice Queen in last Saturday's sports day at the Baldwin auditorium through the courtesy of Collier Weather Inc. Boatwick, attractive Baldwin High student, is an accomplished figure skater.

In a recent report of the registrar of the University of Michigan covering a ten-year study of the scholarship of freshmen from 448 schools in the state, Birmingham High School students were found to rank well among the leaders.

It will be only a month or so now, now, that residents and passing motorists will mistake the water tank on Blue Island boulevard for the rising sun. The orange landmark is to be painted an aluminum gray color as soon as weather permits.

Forfeited, and then blasted off his ship by shells, that was the harrowing experience of a Bloomfield Township youth whose preparations for sea were told only two weeks ago in the eccentric "Men in Service" column. The seaman is Arthur Holmes, Jr., 17-year-old son of the Bloomfield Township constable, who recently related that three days out from port a German submarine torpedoes his vessel and then shelled it. He recovered not long before a Coast Guard cutter rescued him and he discovered he and a mate had been in the water 4 1/2 hours. His buddy saved his life by keeping his face out of the water.

At Great Lakes

Two Birmingham boys, who enlisted in the Navy February 3, are now stationed at the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes. They are W. J. Hamill, son of Clifford Hamill, 815 S. Woodward, and J. M. Dupuis, son of Mrs. Ambrose Dupuis, 371 E. Frank.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 18th day of February, 1947.

Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate. In re: Estate of the Estate of Nina Walker McIntire, Deceased. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 18th day of February, A.D. 1947.

Dead End



one goal the desire to build strong bodies through competitive sports. As citizens who are interested in the welfare of our schools, we should do what we can toward eliminating a Federal tax which tends to restrict the physical development and well-being of our children.

FRANK WHITNEY, Director of Health and Physical Education, Birmingham Public Schools.

Leaving Balance of 30 Cents. Father (to teen-age daughter): Are you going out tonight, dear? Daughter: "Yes, dad. Wilmer and I had planned to go to the movies if you'll cash a fifty-cent check for him."

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 18th day of February, A.D. 1947.

Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate. In re: Matter of the Estate of Nina Walker McIntire, Deceased. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 18th day of February, A.D. 1947.

One step in the right direction would be for the Federal government to remove its heavy "gate receipts" tax on school activities. This year four Birmingham and six athletic department alone will lose over \$1,800 of its funds through the wartime amusement tax.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Two shots such as these can help tell the story of a winter afternoon fun-making a part of a picture series which will bring real enjoyment. SHOOTING IN SEQUENCE. CONFDUCUS, supposedly, authored the saying, "One picture is worth 10,000 words." What, then, of two pictures... or of ten? Or of what we call the picture story?

Everyone has seen such picture stories handled in magazines. Many camera fans, too, understand how movies blend close-ups and long shots in a story-telling sequence. But until you've tried such picture stories for yourself, you've missed a lot of fun. Let's suppose, for example, we want to do a picture story of the family's first winter party. Such a story might start with an indoor close-up as Mother ties a scarf around Betty's neck. We then move outside to snap the family as they come out the door. A long shot, from 20 to 30 feet away, may show the car, skis strapped to the roof, pulling out of the driveway. Once at the ski trail there's a good shot of Dad unloading the skis. Another shot may show Mother waxing her skis, and another showing her just her hands, skis and wax. Then there are pictures of Betty skiing, of someone in the crowd taking a split-second shot of the skier as he, or she, or a pair of pictures like today's of a glacial snow fight during time out from skiing. And then there's the exciting shot of the skier himself, or a pair of pictures like today's of a glacial snow fight during time out from skiing. And then there's the exciting shot of the skier himself, or a pair of pictures like today's of a glacial snow fight during time out from skiing.

RADIO REPAIR ON ALL MAKE AUTOMOBILE OR HOME SETS. Auto Radios a Specialty Zenith and Delco Warranty Service. NEW DELCO RADIOS Available For Immediate Delivery. GENERAL AUTO SERVICE. Erich (Dutch) Kurth, Oliver Corwell, WOODWARD AT FOREST, PHONE 336.

RESTAURANT OPERATION SCHEDULE. So You'll Find Them Open When You Go to Your FAVORITE EATING PLACES. Knowing that you do not want to waste time and stress, the restaurants listed in this advertisement are letting you know what hours they are closed and what hours of other days they will be open to serve you. Check this list carefully when you plan your dinner engagements.

CORNING'S El Patio WOODWARD AVENUE AT COOLIDGE HIGHWAY. SEA-SHORE DINNERS. Open at Noon Daily and Sunday. PHONE ROYAL OAK 8772. FOX AND HOUNDS INN. JOHNSON'S RESTAURANT. FRUIT RIDGE INN. CHECK THESE ADVERTISEMENTS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE WHEN YOU EAT OUT.

INSULATE Your HOME With BALSAM WOOL. U.S.G. Glass Wool Square foot 5 1/2c. Extension LADDERS per sq. ft. 75c. Quarter Inch PLYWOOD 30 x 62 in. sheet \$3.35. BRUCE FLOOR CLEANER Gal. \$1.95. X-PANDOLITE can 35c. HEATILATOR FIREPLACE No. 37 00 34 \$37.00. SAW HORSE BRACKETS Set 95c. We Have White Porcelain MEDICINE CABINETS. LAWSON & SON 484 Forest FUEL AND BUILDERS SUPPLIES. Phone 1111.