

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

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Thursday, July 10, 1947

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

Happenings of Long Ago

90 YEARS AGO

A girl may feel certain on this point, that as a man treats his mother and sisters...

A California millionaire has been sentenced to 24 hours imprisonment in the county jail for spitting in a street car...

Mattie Baldwin is entertaining her friends at the new hotel in Portland, Maine, and the latest reports from the giddy pair say they are just revelling in sea baths, red lemonade, blazers, palm leaf fans and everything...

Our photographer is up-to-date. He is now prepared to make photographs of the people at the latest novelty in photographs. They can be made from any photo. Mothers, have your children's picture taken...

20 YEARS AGO

The Eccentric is first with the news again. It is published to inform you, at the earliest possible moment, of the results of the school election...

Free textbooks will be used in Birmingham schools when the fall semester resumes, following the meeting in the school election here today...

July 14, 1927

Seven south Birmingham residents received cash awards for qualifying in neatness in the Helium contest conducted by the Detroit-Pontiac Homes company...

The capital prize was awarded to John Carr of 141 East Ruffner street. He received \$100 for the best appearing property in the subdivision.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Shain returned home yesterday morning after a two months' trip in Europe.

5 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Dorothy M. Roosevelt announced her candidacy for the week of Representatives this week.

Capt. John B. Schofield, former physician at Cranbrook School, and Capt. John E. Hollister, Birmingham dentist, left their homes and families this week for Army service.

Nancy Neumann and Carol Smith, Baldwin High School students, are the envy of their friends this week, for both of them are to be in the dancing chorus of 12 girls at the Cass next week in the production of "The Merry Widow"...

Kenneth Calhoun Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley Brown, 1015 Woodington road, was formally sworn in last Friday as a midshipman at the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis.

Seven persons paid \$5 costs for blackout violations when they appeared before Justice Forbes S. Lane last Thursday. Sentences of 60 days were suspended.

One hundred thousand Americans were killed by accidents in 1946, according to the National Safety Council.

Better Sign Up Soon--Or Else!



Dr. John P. Wood to Attend Meeting in Chicago July 16

Dr. John P. Wood, 1131 Lyhurst, will preside as president of the American Osteopathic Association during the fifty-first annual convention in Chicago at the Stevens Hotel July 21 to 25, inclusive.

Previous to the convention Dr. Wood will conduct the meeting of the board of trustees which begins July 16. Dr. Wood will give his presidential address at the opening ceremonies, Monday morning, July 21.

He is also scheduled to address the auxiliary to the American Osteopathic Association and the Osteopathic War Veterans Association, both meetings in the Congress Hotel during the week of the convention.

An electrical manufacturer reports that synthetic insulating materials now under development by chemists promise more efficient use of electric power at lower cost.

A National Guard unit must have 10 per cent of its full strength of enlisted men and 25 per cent of its full strength of officers before it can receive Federal recognition.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner



High frontal lighting produced the dark shadows on the face of the model here. To avoid such shadows try sidelighting, or backlighting, or shoot when the sun's low in the sky.

FRONT vs. BACK

A BULKY envelope reached me the other day from a young girl in her teens. She enclosed a number of criticism letters...

Here, then, is a case where my young correspondent might well forget the rule of having the sun behind her when she shoots. For with pictures of people out of doors, backlighting or sidelighting generally yields more pleasing results than full frontal lighting. And in this connection, too, the slanting sunlight of mid-morning or afternoon is to be preferred to the direct, overhead sun of noon.

Two last points, however, which it's well to remember. When your subject is backlit you must be sure that no direct sunlight falls on your camera lens. And you may find, too, that you need a somewhat longer exposure. Where this shot was made at 1/50 and f/11, a backlit shot might be made at 1/40 and f/8.

—John van Gelder

"Easy Lesson" Technique

There are any number of good citizens who seek to get something for nothing. The effort is not confined to money matters but to practically every enterprise that engages the attention of humanity.

Millions of dollars are made by entrepreneurs who offer "easy lessons" to produce desired result. The field of education is not immune to the prevalent search for intelligence without labor. In this area, as in others, there is no easy way.

Some of the confusion arises, no doubt, from the writings of the experts who are not-experts. It is intensified by the boasting assertions of advertisers who blatantly claim the moon for their products. The conflicting claims of theologians have nothing on the ballyhoo of partisans, paid or amateurish, and the resulting babel presents a labyrinth through which few novices can find their way.

The only sane course is based upon common-sense. Nobody can give you anything that you can't assimilate. No advertised product will miraculously produce beauty, grace, wisdom, sound teeth or a baby complexion. Use your head when you buy and use it, also, when you read and think.

Is U. S. Becoming Pagan?

It is somewhat amazing for us to read a news account in which a preacher insists that the United States is fast becoming a pagan nation. The difficulty in understanding such a conclusion comes after consulting figures from the Yearbook of American Churches, which reveals that church membership in 1943-44 was 62.6 per cent of the total population of this country, which is the highest ever reported.

Official reports show that church membership has steadily grown since 1890, when it included only 22.2 per cent of the total population.

The viewers-with-alarm tell us about juvenile delinquents, the disintegration of American homes and lament the lack of "moral impact" in the schools.

Ho-hum! It is the same lament that has come down to every generation. Somehow, the members of the human race manage to perform better than pessimists predict even if they do not measure up to the fullest performance expected by the optimists.

There is no current proof available that Russia wants to cooperate with the democracies upon this earth. Russia is totalitarian; she seeks to dominate the human race by force. She is, ideologically speaking, an enemy of the U.S.A.

Under-Sea Exploration

While man has not fully explored the surfaces of the earth and there are large regions about which we have no accurate information, the quest of mankind for knowledge leads many intrepid adventurers to risk their lives in order to find out the facts.

There have been many spectacular ascents into the air for the purpose of discovering exactly what exists and how it acts. Similarly, efforts have been made to go under the waters of the ocean in order to observe marine life and conditions. In 1934, William Beebe made a descent of 2,028 feet under water. Now, Prof. Augustus Piccard, whose balloon ascent set new altitude records, hopes to break the Beebe record by descending more than 13,000 feet under the ocean off the coast of Africa.

The Professor will use a sealed sphere, two yards wide with walls five-inches thick, surmounted by a reservoir seven yards long. Portholes will enable him to observe fish and other sea-bottom life.

Your Family Tree

There are many Americans who seek to trace their family trees and the business of supplying them with information is conducted by an estimated 25,000 genealogists.

While it is interesting, no doubt, for an individual to know the record of his ancestors, and we have no criticism of those who look back on past generations, the average individual should be more concerned with the record that he, or she, is making in the present.

In some future year, perhaps, some inquisitive descendant might be interested in the family tree and come back to the present day to check up on those who live today.

Self-pity is as dangerous to one's happiness as a dose of poison is to health. Self-reliance is a good cure for self-pity.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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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, in Aid County on the 18th day of June 4, 1947.

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