

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

Wednesday Afternoon Parking

The motorist who wishes to park downtown on a Wednesday afternoon and who lacks the pennies or nickel to put in the parking meter, is literally run to death in locating a store which is open and from which he can get the right change.

In such dire straits, perhaps the City Commission should eliminate Wednesday afternoons from the usual period of meter enforcement.

The Cost of Victory

The cost of total victory is illustrated by the fact that the taxpayers of the United States and Great Britain have spent \$916,114,000 to feed the Germans in their zones since the end of the war.

Despite this amazing contribution to the welfare of enemy peoples, after defeat, there are signs that the Germans are attempting to blame the Allies, alleging that the occupation is "harmful" to Germany and that the victors are not doing all that they could for the Teutons.

The burden of victory is one that cannot be overlooked by a civilized power. Naturally, it was not a burden to Hitler when he conquered adjacent peoples because the Nazi leader exhibited little of the rudiments of civilization.

Robert E. Hannegan has resigned his job as chairman of the Democratic National Committee; in his place is U. S. Senator J. Howard McGrath, of Rhode Island.

This is a good time to be careful on the highway and make plans to save your own life regardless of how other people drive their automobiles.

"The right thing to do" varies with who. The selfish person has his notion, and "right" to him creates problems for society.

If man be considered a thinking animal, we wonder why some of the animals refuse to think.

Sees a Sea Serpent

The "sea serpent" idea has a somewhat mystical appeal to the average person who is prone to believe that such creatures exist. We do not know whether there are sea serpents or not, but despite various and numerous reports, no one has yet managed to bring in a serpent, dead or alive.

The latest story comes from Massachusetts where John F. Ruhl, a pianist, says he saw a 50-foot monster, disporting itself in the water, rolling its barrel-like head and writhing its black coils in and out of the sea.

"I know nobody will believe me," declares Mr. Ruhl, "but I saw the serpent and my daughters saw it, and I'm no fool." Mr. Ruhl says he is sure that what he saw was not basking sharks, killer whales, seals or any optical illusion.

Hunger A War Item

Nearly everybody remembers the popular attitude of the people of the United States when the firing ceased on the battle lines in Europe. The conclusion accepted by Americans generally was that the war was over and that everything was normal again.

This idea may be dissipated by the report of Sir John Boyd Orr, Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, who recently declared that nearly half of the world's population is suffering from famine conditions.

The plight of the helpless populations is a direct result of the destruction and devastation of the recent conflict. It stems from the economic dislocations inevitably associated with war. While the fighting has ceased, the current enemy is hunger and it cannot be vanquished by a peace treaty.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTICE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish right corrected material providing it has new value and suggestions are welcomed. Contributions are usually edited unconditionally and are not returned.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT No. 282 QUANTON LAKE SEWERAGE SYSTEMS

Notice is hereby given that Special Assessor No. 282, heretofore of the City of Detroit, Michigan, has been appointed as assessor for the purpose of making a special assessment on the property owned by the City of Detroit, Michigan, in the Quanton Lake Sewerage System.

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Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO October 1, 1897 Even though we haven't local option, Oakland county has certainly "gone dry." Never have our roads been covered so deeply with dust as they are now. A big rain would certainly be a blessing.

One of our bright and best known young men has been wearing a hat on one eye this week, the result of a lively scrap with a fellow passenger on the Detroit street car.

J. F. Ruhl is a lucky man and again made a most satisfactory deal in trading his farm near the village of Redford for a piece of property in Detroit.

We overheard a lady one day last week, as she tried to get around the huge sand pile located at the very center of town. Mutter to herself, "I never knew before that they kept the sand boxes so far from the school!"

Over 3,500 persons paid their way to see the Redford Fair last week, and as we strolled around the grounds we noticed that Birmingham had certainly done its bit to make the event the success it was. There couldn't have been many left in town here.

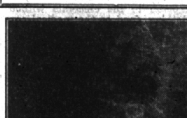
20 YEARS AGO October 9, 1927 Next Thursday will mark the opening of the annual section meeting of school superintendents and principals, when about 300 persons from five counties will meet at Baldwin School.

Mrs. Francis Babby will be the general chairman of the annual Red Cross Roll Call which will open here on Nov. 1. Mrs. Babby now is soliciting the help of volunteer workers from all sections of Birmingham.

Mrs. A. D. Jardine, Birmingham's policewoman, is seeking a new home for her mother, an old baby girl whose mother is forced to work for her support. This is just one of the many duties Mrs. Jardine performs, and about the only one in which the public can help her.

More than 125 members of his congregation were on hand last Friday evening to welcome the Rev. Robert M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church, back from his summer vacation.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner



The figure of the man in the lower left sets a "scale" for this scenic shot, enabling someone viewing it to judge the size relationships of the water, the rocks, and the sky.

A SCALE FOR SCENICS

SEVERAL months ago I came across two pictures which had been made of a photograph of cast iron enlarged in the neighborhood of 9,000 times.

you to judge the height of the falls, the mass of the rocks, the water in your scene, it is well to remember that you need include a figure in every scenic shot. In many shots such a figure adds nothing, but in the case of the scenic shot, it is one which must be decided in terms of personal judgment and taste.

Frankenstein, No Less!



Lost, Sunday, a large Black pig, last seen headed east out of Birmingham. If anyone finds her, please notify C. J. McCracken and I will gladly pay charges. (From Eccentric columns, 48 years ago.)

L. C. Cowen, real estate man, has petitioned the city to blacken the street space between the sidewalk and curb at 1220 South Woodward. He explained that the stones thrown from beneath car wheels have broken so many windows that glass insurance can no longer be obtained.

Mrs. Frank Packard writes from New Orleans of a recent blunckie the Eccentric gave her. It seems a wedding story, in which the happy couple had left for California, ended, not as usual, but with one of those "90 dashes" slogans which read, "Hitler rides in the empty seat." Mrs. Packard writes that after California has had so much trouble with the Japs, they will not appreciate a Birmingham couple riding Hitler into their midst.

Aid comes to local fruit growers this week and as Birmingham tree-sawyers plan to do old clothes and invade local orchards in an effort to cut deeply into the problem of insufficient help. Without this help, growers stand to lose many hundreds of bushels of apples due to the fact that practically every able-bodied man is in uniform or working at a war plant.

People's Column

Sept. 25, 1947 To the Editor: The League of Women Voters of Birmingham has just received the most interesting and appreciation The Eccentric editorial of Sept. 18: "Judge Local Problems First."

The League of Women Voters of Birmingham has had a representative at all city commission and county board of supervisors meetings. The local league spends two-thirds of its budget each year on activities concerned with the welfare of Birmingham and/or Oakland County.

"Doubtless you remember the league sets up information booths at central locations and efforts on free its non-partisan "Candidates Handbook." The league participated actively last year in the Voters' Rally to promote increased registration.

This is directed toward a legislative program providing for re-organization of State services to children under one authority and improvement of standing and organization of juvenile services of county probate courts in the State.

Ones again let me thank you for the ready cooperation you have given in the Birmingham League in promoting an informed citizenry and more active participation in government. ANNE H. GARRISON President, League of Women Voters in Birmingham

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