

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

PAGE 2, PART 3 Thursday, April 1, 1948 THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

Slow Down the Speeders

Lawrence Hulbert, 680 W. Brown street, has approached the city fathers with the idea of a traffic signal at the Brown-Southfield intersection as a means of slowing down speeders.

We don't doubt Hulbert's assertion that Southfield is pretty much of a speedway. In fact, that's not the only one in the city.

Should the city decide to put in a light at any strategic intersection, we don't think anyone will object—except the speeders.

Can We Prevent War?

Recent debate in the House of Lords indicates that the British people, almost regardless of party, are determined to organize Western Europe against the threat of Communism.

One of the speakers, Lord Pakenham, asked a very pertinent question: "How can we save the world from Communism without war when we couldn't save it from Nazism without war?"

The answer is that the question of war or peace will be answered in the future, as in the past, by the aggressors. Because Hitler was determined to advance his hegemony by force, there was war.

Admittedly Birmingham streets are a bit difficult to drive over now that they have become a bit "soggy". But have you visited a few of our neighboring communities lately—Royal Oak, Pontiac, Berkley, Detroit? Their streets aren't in such good shape, either.

'Tis Washington

The senators are building something, too. Not a porch. And a lot of mystery surrounds what it is. It's all very hush-hush. No reporter has seen it. Where the money is coming from is even a darker secret.

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Unjust Tax on Margarine

The high price of butter has caused considerable consumer interest in Federal taxes on margarine and restrictions which were designed to hamper its sale to the public.

For a number of years, Members of Congress from the South, wanting a better market for vegetable fats that comprise the principal ingredients of margarine, attempted to secure passage of laws to repeal the taxes on margarine.

Since medical authorities assert that margarine is as nutritious as butter and that the product is in the "pure food" class, it is difficult to understand how heavy taxation on margarine can be justified.

In Italy, the United States Ambassador, James E. Dunn, recently made an address upon the occasion of the arrival of the four hundredth American ship, carrying supplies to Italy.

Amazing Generosity

Mr. Dunn pointed out that these ships have carried four million tons of grain, coal and medicine to Italy in the past six months.

We wonder if somebody can point to a similar example in the history of the world, where a victorious nation has been so generous to a defeated people.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 3022 1/2 Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11-12 and 18.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

This appealing snapshot of two small boys was awarded \$600 in last year's National High School Photographic Awards.

High School Contest Is On Again

THOUSANDS of high school boys and girls during the past two years have gained an added measure of satisfaction from photography through the National High School Photographic Awards.

MODERN STORAGE MOVING

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Happenings of Long Ago

FIFTY YEARS AGO April 1, 1898

Postmaster Sam Mitchell announces that the proposed increase in postage fees, from 10 cents per quarter, has been rescinded.

Last week we said that Mrs. Bruce's mother died at Brockway Center. It was Mr. Bruce's mother. We are sorry we made the error. She died at Burnside.

The house of Thos. Green was consumed by fire 3 miles north of here Sunday morning. It started in the chimney and consumed the structure thoroughly.

Mrs. John Wilson, veteran carpet weaver of Oakland County, has made many new improvements to her loom and is now able to make better carpets than ever.

Jesse Caswell has struck by a trolley Sunday as he stood too close to the tracks. His one knee was badly mangled.

D. Starr is selling his home-made maple syrup this year at a slightly higher price than usual. But even for \$2.00 a gallon he should have no trouble getting rid of it since everyone knows it's pure and good.

FRANCIS has announced that a third story is being added to the new Wakeek Building on West Maple avenue. This will be the largest office building in Birmingham.

Leonard Whitman, 16, of Detroit was killed Sunday when he was struck by a car while changing a tire. The accident took place on Clawson road near Woodward avenue.

Mrs. Nancy Thomas, librarian, announced recently that a large new shipment of children's books had been received here. They are both fictional and non-fictional books, for various age groups.

Sites are being investigated by local officials for the summer camping period. The tentative date set is from August 1 through 11. The schedule will be announced as soon as full details can be arranged.

Because of many grass fires in Birmingham recently, the fire chief, William C. Olson, has issued a warning to all residents. He said that property damage through fire

caused by burning lawns and yards over is gross negligence. Jack Stone, of Pontiac, was arrested here last month, charged with the illegal transportation of liquor. Arraigned at circuit court, he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Bill Gardner, Clyde Martz, Joe Moory and Hal Busby of the Lions Club were on their knees painting stencils on the sidewalk when they heard a lady exclaim, "My, My! Are those men shooting dice?"

Spring is here. A resident of Greenwood avenue has reported to police that a window in his house has been broken by boys playing baseball.

A Junior group of Alma B. Grinnip piano class gave a recital Sunday afternoon at their regular weekly meeting.

The seventh annual student control day in Birmingham

Taking a Good Look at Himself



As secretary of the Birmingham Junior Chamber of Commerce, I wish to take this opportunity to express the organization's sincerest thanks for your outstanding cooperation during the recent drive of the "Friendship Food to France to diversify its distribution."

People's Column

March 29, 1948

The Birmingham Lions Club has raised \$225,000 in the sale of bonds. Their initial goal was \$175,000 for the purchase of a bomber for the U. S. Air Forces.

The tropics have lost some of their charms for local girls who view the grass skirts sent home from New Guinea, and remark "It looks awfully scratchy!"

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