

Every man that possesses much goods of this world—at least in their possession of the goods alone. ... always be good. If you are able to enjoy fully the free things of life ... beauty, you are rich in real goods.

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The Birmingham Eccentric

PART ONE

H.S. and THAT

A Variety to Hob-Nob With
During the past two years it has been my privilege to hob-nob with quite a number of people in public office, mostly in connection with discussing governmental problems and seeking satisfactory solutions. On the whole, I have found such people to be serious and sincere; but now and then you come across a cheap mind with a political war whose ideas are not in the public interest.

Among those with whom I have been thrust are U. S. Senators, a variety of Governors, many elected officials, college and university folks, and many leaders in the private walks of life. Considering the lack of citizen interest and participation on governmental problems, I've often said to myself, "Boy, if it's a wonder we get as much good government as we do."

Probably in the not too distant future more and more of government will be administered by career men and women, who have been trained for the public service. No doubt the people will be continued election of top public officials, but under them will be important bureau and department heads, headed by civil service, who really will operate a major portion of the device we call "American government."

"Plucking the Tax Goose"
Kentucky, we all agree, raises the greatest amount of money in America; on the finest blue grass in America; it also raises a lot of other things, including, I believe, people who develop screw ideas about raising taxes.

For example, in Detroit last week at the three-day conference of the Council on State Government and a Kentucky representative, John W. Manning, head of that State's finance department, made a statement to the effect that the States should follow the lead of the federal government and levy taxes in excess of what the public won't see 'em. Manning is opposed to an open sales tax because it is too visible to the public, and the public yells about 'em.

Following the federal method of hidden taxes, the goose will not squawk so loudly while it is being plucked. "What's more, the States will be able to increase revenues," he said. "The States will be able to get hidden taxes, and easier, for a while, to get more of them than visible taxes; but where does it all end up?"

The Best Way
Simply stated, it allows government to get more of the State's and nation's income—money that comes from the pockets of everybody who works, and that includes all of labor organization memberships, too.

Then, by decreasing the purchasing power of the dollar, as wages, it decreases the volume of production that always ends up as tax on the consumer.

The best way to control the cost of government, and remind people that it does cost money and where they are paying taxes. No, Mr. Manning, in my opinion you are a far better blue grass queen in the realm of tax experts.

Done all your Christmas shopping yet? (To the ladies: bless the tremendous time you put in wrapping the packages so colorfully!) (To us men: why didn't we learn to appreciate such wrappings, and remove them with tender care—instead of tearing 'em off?)

Madame Chiang Kai-Shek is a world-famous woman; she arrived in the U.S.A. last week, seeking only three billions of your money to help in China's war with the Communists. The Madame is one of the best dressed women on earth; she would be doing a better and more impressive job exactly had she worn the simple frock of a Chinese peasant.

Military Analyst to Speak Here
S. L. A. Marshall, editorial writer and military analyst for The Detroit News, will speak to members of the Birmingham Rotary Club next Monday noon, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p. m.

Letters to Santa Claus
Appears in The Eccentric this week on Pages 2, 3 and 4. They are the Christmas wishes of 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade pupils at Pierce School.

Girl Injured As Rifle Shot Pierces Coat

Boy, Believed to Have Fired Gun, Escapes Neighbor

See Moloney, 16, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. Clark Moloney, 414 Arlington, escaped serious injury Saturday afternoon, when a stray bullet passed through the padded shoulder of her riding coat. The girl was riding near the Lawrence Dunn home, 7860 W. Greenwidge, when she felt something strike her shoulder. She reported to Bloomfield Township police that she did not notice the sound of a shot.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, however, heard the bullet whistle past them, and the sound of the gun. The former ran to aid Miss Moloney, who was having difficulty with her mount. When he learned she was not seriously injured, Mr. Dunn to take the family car and try to head off a youth seen running across the field.

Refuses to Enter Car
According to police, Mr. Dunn overtook the boy as he left the woods near Oakland and Lakewood. She tried to get him to enter the car, but he refused, also refusing to give his full name. Miss Dunn did manage, however, to get the boy, a single-shot Remington .22 gauge, which he had hidden in the trunk of the car. It has been turned over to the police.

Bloomfield Twp. Police Chief J. J. Dowling is conducting a systematic search for youths residing in this general area in the belief that the boy resides somewhere in the vicinity of the north-south city limits. Of the 18- to 20-year-olds in this area, he is looking for a boy fitting this description: 18 to 20 years of age, slender build, light brown hair, clean, well-dressed appearance, wearing white sportswear, and carrying a .22 gauge rifle.

"A boy, residing in the residential section, has been given a lesson, along with his parents," police stated. "A change in the law, which would make it a crime to have a rifle, is being considered, but it is believed that this boy could have been found in Miss Moloney's."

Cold War Permits Stain to Stall for More Time
Although Russia's war strength potential at the present time is estimated one-third that of the United States, this fact does not mean she wouldn't be foolish enough to start a war with America, declared J. J. Brown, chief of the Glengary road, to Birmingham Monday afternoon.

"Germany and Japan were foolish enough to try it, so Russia will be no different," he said. "I am sure, who is assistant to A. M. Wibbel, Nash-Kleinmeyer."

"Stalin is waging the 'cold war' for four reasons, said Brown: to weaken the Russian people, to wear the European nations away from the U. S., consolidate and control the Marshall Plan.

Brown, who has just recently completed a course in the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, said Russia has great potential strength, although its very nature brings about certain physical limitations.

"She has ample iron, coal and oil for some years to come, but her transportation system is her great weakness, particularly lack of a modern technique in air transport," he said.

Small Boy, Kicked by Horse, Returned to Home of Parents
William Hammond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Hammond, Charing Cross road, has returned to his home after being a patient in St. Joseph Hospital at Pontiac. The boy was taken there last Wednesday, after being struck in the head by a horse.

The accident occurred after other children in the Hammond family had returned from riding and turned the horses into the paddock. William, aged two and a half years, wanted to ride on one horse which, in turning sharply, struck him over one eye.

He was taken to the hospital and operated on, and left in New York at the time, was notified.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammond by phone made arrangements for an emergency operation which was performed at the residence of a crashed skull, and left immediately for home by plane.

The accident reported Monday that her son was much improved.

Truck-Auto Crash Here Saturday Night Kills Three, Injures Two



This car was completely demolished Saturday night when hit by a truck at the Woodward-Hunter cross-over at the north city limits. Of the car's five passengers, three were killed, two injured.

Kiwians Hear Talk on British Nationalization

Norman Tiptaft, former Lord Mayor of Birmingham, England, made his third Birmingham talk to his list when he arrived here Tuesday noon in an appearance sponsored by the Birmingham Kiwanis Club.

Tiptaft, during a speaking tour in this country earlier in the year, had also visited Birmingham, Ala.

Introduced by Ernest Miller, Kiwanis president, he spoke before a public meeting, following a dinner given by the club in his honor. His topic, "What Nationalization Means for the World," was an overall picture of the effects and changes wrought in several countries and industrial fields which have been taken over by the government.

Tiptaft stated that when the labor party came into power in England, it had made some progress which had not yet been fulfilled. "However, the people know exactly what they voted for; nothing was held back."

Slightly Higher
At the outset of the nationalization in Britain, he estimated that about 20 per cent of the country's enterprises would be taken over by the government. That is slightly higher than those which have been taken over today, but one or two more are facing this change in the near future.

Coal was among the first industries to be nationalized, he said in his speech, and during the question and answer period which followed Tiptaft was not of a form which had several benefits from it.

"Britain had been mining about 200 years before the first European country," he said. Her methods were still somewhat primitive, mines were not of a form which private industry could afford to convert to modern methods. The nationalized program enabled them to do this. It improved working conditions, it gave the miners higher wages, it is now providing ample coal for domestic use with a considerable amount available for export, two years ago, during the winter winter anyone could remember, no one had enough coal for his own grate, and industry was bogged down.

Last year the picture grew brighter. This year there is a surplus of plenty, industrial supplies are more than adequate, and we export large quantities."

Good and Bad Moments
Cables and wires, civil aviation, transportation, electric power, gas and the British Broadcasting Company are all nationalized businesses, according to Tiptaft, have had their good and bad moments, but all are facing ultimate success.

"We, in Britain, when we turn in for the news, want news. We do not want a long discussion about the condition of our intestines, nor do we care to hear about the values of a certain shaving cream. We know enough about those things for the moment, and we want our news."

To defray the expenses of broadcasts, each radio owner is asked \$4 a year by the government, thus getting his news, entertainment, and other types of broadcasts. This is a small sum. This, alone, paid a huge sum into the government last year.

"As present this is a test. Many of the theoretical benefits are, as I am doubtful. We have taken just about all we can stand and more will not be accepted until the present changes are proven successful," the former mayor told his listeners.

Replying to what his attitude in the Berlin crisis, Tiptaft said he cannot see how the present conflict can remain. He feels a shadow about all we can stand and more will not be accepted until the present changes are proven successful," the former mayor told his listeners.

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20-ft. Service Drives Along Hunter Blvd. To Control Parking

Birmingham city officials this week came up with what they believe will prevent—or at least make it uneconomical—for hotdog stands to be erected along Hunter Blvd., between Oakland and Lincoln, and on Woodward, from Lincoln to the 14 Mile road.

The 20-foot service drive along each side of Hunter and Woodward at 14 Mile, separated from the super-highways by an 8-foot parkway.

The city commission Monday night instructed City Manager Donald C. Egbert to conduct negotiations with the State Highway Department on the financing of such a plan.

State Favors Plan
According to Egbert, a talk last week with two state officials disclosed that the state favors such a program as a means of controlling and preventing a parking situation similar to that which now exists along Woodward in downtown Ferndale.

Harold G. Bauerle and Samuel Levine, state highway officials, spent considerable time with Egbert last Friday in attempting to work out the solution to various traffic problems along Hunter and South Woodward.

Bauerle indicated the state would go along on the "service drive" idea, and suggested that the property owners pay 50 per cent of the cost of such construction, with the state and city splitting the other half of the cost.

Give City More Time
In discussing this matter with the commission Monday evening, Egbert said he believed the state should bear 50 per cent, with the

property owners standing 35 per cent, the city 15 per cent. He stated that this would have been agreeable to the state before it could be assessed in this manner.

"The state might even construct the drives and then bill the city. This would give us about 18 months more in which to raise the city's share of the cost," Egbert explained.

Both Bauerle and Levine are of the opinion that immediate action should be initiated to control parking on portions of US-10 through the city, and they will so recommend to the State Highway Commissioner, Egbert stated.

It is believed the city will not have to provide a service drive from Oakland avenue north to the Woodward Crossover on Hunter. On the east is a city park, while on the west is residential property.

(See DRIVES, Page 2)

"The Court Will Come to Order, Please!"

Great Lakes (Lovers) Photo

"Judge" William Leckie presides over the bicycle court in Barnum School. Four offenders stand before him as he discusses their cases prior to passing sentence. The weekly sessions, held in each school, are a regular part in the police department's drive to make bicycle riding safe in Birmingham, and to create correct traffic habits in the boys and girls who will, in a few years, be numbered among Birmingham motorists. (See story on Page 2, Part 2.)

Hills PTA Panel To Discuss School District Economics

The Parent-Teachers' organization of Bloomfield Hills school district will devote its next meeting, starting at 8:30 p. m. Tuesday, Dec. 14 at Bloomfield Hills School, to a combined panel and floor discussion of "The Economics of School District Operations."

Parents, taxpayers and teachers are urged to ask the panel members about school building, curricula, athletic facilities and finances.

Frank Arnold, Kenneth D. McGeorg and Mrs. Irving H. MacKenzie will represent the school board, and John Jacobs, Mrs. Hazel McGeorg and Richard J. Speier will represent the faculty on the panel.

Construction Here Takes Sharp Drop As Mercury Hits Skids

With the increasingly cold weather, building in Birmingham was marked by a sharp decline for November, when the estimated construction cost was set at \$104,956. The previous month showed a total cost of \$439,024.

According to E. S. Clark, acting building inspector, this includes permits for three single family residences, with alterations of six others. Two new business buildings are being erected, and two were approved for alteration, with one factory addition being made. There are 20 private garages being built. Two applications for "miscellaneous" approved, involved expenditures of \$250.

The total for 1948, to Nov. 30, is \$5,397,919 an increase of more than two million over the previous year.

By Alice E. Morgan

In Birmingham there is a small and select group of men who are going to receive several thousand Christmas greeting cards and are not going to like one of them. They are the employees at postoffice and the "mixies" who receive each year of "mixies" to postal employees, are those cards which cannot be delivered because the address is not complete, cannot be read, or the card does not carry proper postage.

Last year the Birmingham office played unwilling host to a number of "mixies," while would-be recipients were told they did not hear from so-and-so even as so-and-so wondered why they had no Christmas cards from friends on the "cute" cards they sent.

Check Your List
If you don't want long friendships to suddenly turn chilly, and are not sure of the address to which you might at least remember them at Christmas, be sure you are not sending out "mixies." Check your list. (See POST OFFICE, Page 2.)

Part of Street Vacated; Rest Will Be Alley

Palm street, between Hazel and Chestnut, was vacated by the city commission Monday night, which at the same time vacated all but the center 30 feet of Palm street, between Chestnut and First.

Left over as a result of the construction of Hunter Blvd., it was decided the street served no public purpose. However, the northern half of Palm was kept open as an alley in the event the business property to the west is developed in such a way as to have need for an alley.

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Weekend Accidents Here Claim 3 Lives, Hospitalize 3 Others

Three persons are dead and three others hospitalized in traffic mishaps in this vicinity over the past weekend. Mrs. Nancy Lee Rucker, 48, and her daughter, Mrs. Enid Rucker Gaines, 17, of Detroit, were dead on arrival at a Pontiac hospital Saturday evening after their car side-swiped a truck at the north intersection of Woodward avenue and Hunter boulevard. Percy Rucker, 56, was admitted to the hospital in a critical condition, and died early Monday morning.

Two others in the Rucker family, Mildred, 20 and Hilda Mae, 11, are still confined to the hospital.

Asa Robert Berry, Highland Park, was released by the sheriff's department, after making a formal statement concerning the crash. Berry was driving a panel truck north on Woodward when it was struck by the south-bound passenger car.

Footstair Struck
Dolores Rigidin, 17, 1380 Vermont, is in General Hospital, where attendants said her condition was still critical, after being struck by a car Sunday night. She has a possible skull fracture and concussion.

Mildred L. Connell, Pontiac, told police she was driving on a parkway that was under construction, near Auburn court, when she was struck by a panel truck north on Woodward when it was struck by the south-bound passenger car, going east on 14 Mile, pulled into the traffic lane in front of him.

Police reported that there were no injuries in the crash Monday at Woodward and 14 Mile road involving cars driven by Richard Austin Cowles, 1595 Yosemite, and Danly I. Lumsden, route four, 14 Mile road, near Woodward. Lumsden was driving south on Woodward when the Lumsden car, going east on 14 Mile, pulled into the traffic lane in front of him.

Wet Pavement
He said he applied his brakes, but due to wet pavement, he was unable to stop. Lumsden told police she had stopped her car, but started again thinking she had time to cross the intersection.

Another crash, at Lincoln and Woodward Monday afternoon, resulted in a slight injury to Mary Rose Raider, who was returning home after treatment by a doctor.

"Miss Raider was a passenger in a car driven by Alice Jean Shero, 4140 Woodward, who was struck by a car driven by Gertrude Watkins, police, the Watkins car had stopped, which had cut in front of it, and was struck by the other vehicle. Neither driver was held.

Annual Christmas Theatre Party to Be Held Saturday

George T. Dweley, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce committee arranging the Christmas program for children of Birmingham, has announced that a 1,000 ticket Christmas party will be held this week through the local schools. This annual event, which will be held at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, is now being carried on by the Chamber of Commerce.

Through the courtesy of Howard Rohlf, manager of the Birmingham Theatre, the party will be held there at 8:30 a. m. Saturday, Dec. 11. Postmaster's office will be held there at 8:30 a. m. Saturday, Dec. 11. Postmaster's office will be held there at 8:30 a. m. Saturday, Dec. 11.

In addition to this, members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce will distribute 1,000 Christmas cards to attending. Dweley stated that the 1,000 tickets being distributed would mean a capacity crowd for the theatre, and no tickets would be sold.

Funeral Held for Wife of Grinnell Bros.' Executive
Services for Mrs. Lola M. Grinnell, 1290 Lakeside, were held from the Williams B. Grinnell Funeral Home last Friday afternoon, with burial in Roseland Park cemetery.

Mrs. Grinnell was the wife of Lloyd G. Grinnell, director of the Grinnell Brothers Hotel and the daughter of Albert A. Grinnell, one time president of the company.

She was born in Oakland, N.Y., on May 6, 1890, and came to Detroit with her parents in 1910. An accident, about 18 years ago, left her an invalid for the rest of her life. She had long maintained active interest in the Women's City Club, Detroit Symphony Society and the Detroit Museum of Art Founders' Society.

Besides her husband she is survived by her parents, Mrs. Jeanette and a son, Albert A., II, both of Birmingham.

ANE you know how? See advertisement Page 1, Sec. 2.

All makes of inner spring mattresses made by the Williams B. Grinnell Company. PHONE HOME 1-0788.

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