

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

Dewey-Warren... While the publisher of this newspaper was part of the recent Michigan effort to make Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg "available" for the Republican nomination as President of the United States...

Dewey, though he originally gained fame and reputation as a racket buster in New York City, has done an equally valuable job as Governor for the State of New York. He has the genius to pick capable men and women to play on his administrative team...

Earl Warren, twice Governor of California, is recognized as a man of high ideals, great personal ability and integrity. Although he originally declared himself unavailable for the Vice-Presidency, he finally agreed to accept that nomination in Philadelphia when Dewey declared that he would "make Warren a member of my team" as befits the Vice-Presidency.

In spite of the heated competition for the two nominations at Philadelphia, the vanquished have publicly agreed to campaign for the success of the Party as it campaigns up to the November 5 election. Now let us hope that the citizens of this nation will become interested in the campaign ahead...

Holdings of licenses from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission are given detailed information regarding the penalties for violating various laws, rules, and regulations. So, folks, don't feel sorry for the average licensee who is penalized by the L.C.C.

Give the Kids a Chance... Every parent whose child rides a bike will want to take a long look at the statistics on bicycle accidents recently totaled up by traffic authorities. Unless something is done about it, the coming year will again see more than 25,000 bicyclists—most of them children—killed or injured in street and highway accidents.

Ever since the coming of automobiles, bicycles have been tolerated somewhat grudgingly as hybrids in the vehicle family—a sort of cross between a pedestrian and a motor vehicle—without being willing to accept them. Pedestrians don't want them on the sidewalks; motorists call them a nuisance and a danger on the streets. Where there are no proper regulations for their operation, cyclists ride to the right, to the left, through red lights, in and out between moving cars, and sometimes even travel aloft beside their bikes in crowded traffic.

Such a state of affairs is hair-raisingly dangerous. It is unfair to cyclists, motorists and pedestrians alike; for accidents are often caused by cyclists even though the bicycle itself may not be hit in the crash. But perhaps the worst damage of all is to character. Young people are encouraged in habits of recklessness and lack of respect for traffic laws, and this is the worst possible preparation for them as future citizens and car-owners.

Cure for this situation would seem to lie not in outlawing bicycles, but in giving them a respectable place in the traffic family. Every community should welcome a constructive program providing for enforcement of such traffic regulations as apply to bicycles and for their registration, licensing and inspection. Let's give the kids a chance!

If all the political speeches to be made in this country during the summer of 1948 were laid end to end, there would be no end to political speeches.

The Birmingham Eccentric... Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich. in the Eccentric Building, 222 Broadway Avenue. GEORGE R. AVILL, Editor and Publisher. PAUL NEAL, Editor. HAROLD P. BUZZELL, Managing Editor. Address: 222 Broadway Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan, under the U. S. Post Office at Birmingham, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1919.

Happenings of Long Ago

FIFTY YEARS AGO July 8, 1898 Don't forget the musicale at Miss Jennie Peck's on Maple avenue Monday evening. The admission is 5c per person. A new kiln of brick at Randall's and Daniell's will be opened soon and a nice batch of bright red brick is expected.

Have we a law about bicycle riding on the sidewalk? If so, why not enforce it? It is hardly safe to step from a downtown building to the walk, and little safer after you have made that move successfully.

It would seem that a town with six churches to a thousand people would not need a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, but it does. Let's hear that Birmingham is treating its animals better.

Will our readers kindly pardon any shortcomings this week, which are of course, due to the fact that we celebrated the Fourth too gloriously and are still recuperating!

Fragments of a captured Spanish flag have been sent to the Evening Post on the evening of George, who is serving on the Yosemite. They treasure these tattered remnants highly. The colors are red, yellow and a very deep blue.

Work was scheduled to be started today on the paving of eight village streets, following the award of contracts to the Taylor Construction company of Birmingham Monday night by the village commission.

Birmingham's new policeman, Mrs. Alice M. Haldane, who lives on Brown street, is active today in her new duties, according to James W. Parry, village manager.

At last! Birmingham mothers may know where their children are—out of mothers' sight but not lost! For this week marked the opening of the series of playground programs at Barston field, under the direction of George F. Johnson, high school athletic coach.

The only similarity between the fourth of July in Birmingham and back in Luzenburg, Mass., the home town, is the weather. I guess Fourth has its traditions all right, but yesterday might have been anything. There were some persons I felt like telling what all the flags were flying for. They looked at them, mouths open, and just wondered. They seemed to think the Liberty Bell was a new fad. Anyone who sought excitement and noise around here were sorely disappointed. Auto horns and an occasional firecracker were fortissimo. No one ever

Pretty Perky for a Man 172 Years Old!



would have known anything more important than a rubber check had been signed on such a day.

FIVE YEARS AGO July 1, 1943 The second half of a ten per cent raise promised city employees was approved earlier this year and the first half went into effect immediately.

Twenty carloads of cinders were unloaded earlier this week as the final preparations of the Grand Trunk parking lot got under way. The lot will provide plenty of parking facilities for all commuters to and from Birmingham over the Grand Trunk line.

Gasoline coupons, representing 1,400 gallons of the precious fluid were stolen from the gas station of Jerry Stevens, 847 North Woodward Thursday night. Thieves gained entrance to the station by breaking a window.

The religious classes being held at the various summer recreation spots are receiving a great many enrollments from the youngsters in Birmingham. Enrollment far exceeds that of former years.

Six Birmingham boys are home after an interesting stay at Wolverine State Boys Camp at East Lansing. The lads are full of enthusiasm about this unique citizenship camp, sponsored by the American Legion.

People's Column

June 22, 1948 To the Editor: The Southfield township school election of June 15, 1948, CLEARLY showed that the people of Southfield township DO NOT want more taxes added to them; they also gave the mandate that the Southfield township consolidated school board already has plenty enough funds at the present time, together with what they will take in through their normal levy in the next two to five years (meaning without any additional five-mill or other levy) to properly maintain all the township schools, as well as buy a suitable site and build a sufficient high school NOW. (Many voters maintain the schools now have sufficient ground on which a high school could be built without additional purchase.)

What Southfield township clearly requires is an able school board who will use the \$60,000 to \$150,000 (or more) of school funds now available, wisely and economically!

When many other places can build a ten-room high school in these times for \$85,000, there is no good reason why Southfield (and other like communities) with the right men guiding the project, can not do likewise without recourse to school bonds and such objectionable devices.

The opinion is rapidly growing that a group of men have taken over the school administration in many places in this country in the hope to sabotage our schools through the absorption of school funds; hiding behind the school children, they always profess absolute innocence. We must be alert to see that no such group ever does accomplish such a project.

These rotations are made to an elect electorate, thank goodness, as being proved every day. Evidently, the recent Southfield mandate was a direct one... use what you now have and make it do the job.

CHARLES MURPHY Route 5 Birmingham

To the Editor: The article recently printed in The Eccentric, on the dedication of our Veterans' Memorial Clock, was very much appreciated by our club. Please accept this note expressing our thanks to you for the article. MRS. JOHN W. WALTRATH Corresponding Sec'y. Monday of America, Unit No. 3 Birmingham

Mixed About to travel to India, an Englishman was told by friends to be sure not to miss the tiger shooting. "It's no trick at all," they said: "You hide in a thicket at night; when the least animal stir between its two eyes, shining in the dark. It will fall as if struck by lightning!" On his return they asked how many tigers he had killed. "None at all," he replied, sadly. "They've become altogether too clever. They now travel in pairs, and each one closes an eye—so, of course."

Charles W. Blumman, Atty. 207 Wabash Bldg., Birmingham, Mich. STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court of the County of Franklin is hereby appointed for hearing and determining the will of the late Mrs. M. J. Blumman, deceased, at a session of said Court, held at the Court House in the City of Pontiac in said County, on the 26th day of June, 1948.

Present, Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate. In the Matter of the Estate of Eleanor M. Blumman, Deceased. Charles W. Blumman having died a testator, his will, as contained in said Court, was admitted to Probate as the will of said testator, and the administration of said estate is being conducted by said executor named in said will or to some other person.

It is Ordered, That the 26th day of July, A.D. 1948 at 9 o'clock in the forenoon at said Probate Office, is hereby appointed for hearing and determining the will of the late Mrs. M. J. Blumman, deceased, as hereinbefore provided by publication of a copy hereof, most of which was made on consecutive weeks, previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Post-Herald newspaper printed and circulated in said County, and that anyone desiring a copy of this notice to be served according to law, together with returns thereon, demanded, to each of the known heirs at law, legatees and devisees of the last known place of address at least ten days prior to said day of hearing.

ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate. 13-16-17

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner



Sharp details help lend snap to your pictures, so hold camera firmly, use adequate shutter speed and camera movement.

Minimum Shutter Speeds A LETTER from a high school student last week asked a pertinent question. "Not long ago," our correspondent wrote, "you mentioned that many pictures were spoiled by what you called camera movement—moving the camera ever so slightly as the shutter is tripped. I'm curious to know what shutter speed will help overcome the effects of camera movement."

Actually, as we pointed out before, the first step in overcoming camera movement is to hold the camera firmly with both hands, resting against chest or cheekbone, and trip the shutter smoothly. But sufficient shutter speed will help, too. And in this connection the most important point is never to use a speed of less than 1/25 of a second when your camera is hand-held.

More often, you'll want to use a speed of at least 1/50. With miniature cameras, such as a 35mm., you may find 1/100 is better. The reason for this is that prints from miniature cameras are almost always enlarged. And a slight fuzziness, caused by camera movement, which is not apparent in a small contact print, often becomes objectionably noticeable when the print is blown up.

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'Tis Washington By The Duchess Summer school vacations are too long... What will the Democrats do about civil rights at the convention? They hope—prayerfully—to take care of that troublesome question, which has already split the party sunder, in the closed meetings of the platform committee.

opening of school. What will the Democrats do about civil rights at the convention? They hope—prayerfully—to take care of that troublesome question, which has already split the party sunder, in the closed meetings of the platform committee. But these closed sessions promise to be stormy ones. On one side are four Southerners (Senator Hoy of North Carolina, former Governor Sparks of Alabama, former Governor Moody of Texas, and George Key of Oklahoma) pushing for a "vague" civil rights platform. On the other, are such outspoken "big city" advocates of FEPC as Senator "Specified" civil rights measures as Senator Francis Myers of Philadelphia, Representative Emanuel Celler of Brooklyn, and Mayor Humphrey of Minneapolis.

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What if they can agree — party unity can happen on July 12 in Philadelphia. Why aren't American women being educated for the lives they lead? That question set off fireworks in one part of Washington recently when the state presidents of the American Association of University Women were in conference. Once a man speaker, Dr. Lynn White, Jr., president of Mills College, stirred up an intellectual hornet's nest by declaring curricula of Eastern colleges were formulated on the assumption women were "men in disguise." Since then business leaders, psychiatrists, preachers, teachers, lecturers and other Francis Myers of Philadelphia, Representatives Emanuel Celler of Brooklyn, and Mayor Humphrey of Minneapolis. What seems to escape the attention of all is that men aren't educated either for the lives they lead, especially in their homes... American tourists in Europe should stop bragging. Weary with fumbling with 4 or 5 languages, different money at every border, and many customs as countries, American motorists forget they can ride merrily along the highways of Europe with one set of rules and regulations. The speed mirrors, the traffic laws, the road signs are uniform! But here you can't drive your car across country without fangling with the law of at least one of the 48 states, thousands of miles of humane treatment, and a bill was introduced calling for an act for better care of elephants. It was prompted by a report about the misuse of elephants from India who "were unprotected from the hands of those who broke over them". Four died on the way. But an elephant which romped around in Philadelphia seemed to be doing all right.

Headline for CLUB NEWS remains at noon Mondays.