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Education Is Progressing

Adams School Principal Paul Carter, in speaking to members of the school's PTA last week, included in his remarks the statement: "Reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic are still the foundation of our education system."

We submit that Birmingham schools include these three courses in the curriculum, that attempts are being made to teach youngsters the fundamentals.

Yet we wish to point out that in the past few years, an overwhelming majority of Baldwin High School graduates are shamefully ignorant of how to add, subtract, multiply and divide simple problems. No young high school graduate is going to set the world on fire if he or she can't add—without great mental confusion—a list of five or six routine store purchases.

The blame is not entirely theirs, however. If they have not been subjected to the proper method of instruction in the elementary grades, they will not learn arithmetic fundamentals.

It is to the credit of the Birmingham school system—principally through the efforts of Superintendent Dwight B. Ireland—that this problem was recognized several years ago and steps taken to meet it by the introduction of a simpler, more direct method of teaching arithmetic in the lower grades.

In national educational conventions and meetings, many well known educators have recognized the progress being made in Birmingham schools. They have stated that the Birmingham district is well ahead of most other school systems in the treatment of this arithmetic problem.

Such modernization of basic concepts is needed in regard to many educational matters, not only arithmetic. However, the largest problem facing educators today is the modernization of adults and their tendency to regard present education methods as fulfilling all the needs and requirements of today's youth.

His neighbors report that Donald M. Norton, 2352 Dorchester, makes it a hobby to clean the snow from the driveways and sidewalks. He likes to do it, they say, because it is his gesture to the neighborliness of the area in which he lives. We would like to see many, many more people with the spirit Norton demonstrates. Too many persons, in contrast, don't give a hoot about their neighbors; in fact, don't even know who lives next to them—and don't care. But as long as there are Nortons in this world, there is still hope.

We are told that there are two kinds of people in this world of ours: the good and the bad. The good decide which is which.

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

How to Keep 'Em Down On the Farm

The other day Pete Swanson's nephew, Bud, allowed as how he was fed up with farm and country life... and was going to the city where there was a lot more opportunity and excitement.

Some folks might have tried to stop him. But not Pete. He even advised Bud to take care of the trip... figured that when he'd had a good look around, he'd come back where he belonged.

And what happened? After seven days of big-town bustle and excitement, Bud was back behind the

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IN THE YELLOW PAGES OF THE
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY



Better of Two Ways

A fine, neighborhood shopping center has been forecast for the southeast corner of E. Maple and Hunter if the city commission would close High street and thus permit construction of the shopping center.

Of course, there are many angles to this problem, as the commission realizes more than anyone else. But our reaction is, it would be infinitely better for the city if a controlled shopping center went up on this particular land parcel, than if a used car lot or hot dog shack went in there.

Of two doubtful propositions, we'd take the better of the two. One way we know and ask for what we get; on the other hand, we'd never know what we would get.

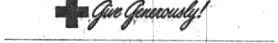
Historic Reminder

It may surprise some Americans to note the close parallel between conditions in Europe at the close of World War I and the present disturbed period, as revealed in a collection of diplomatic papers published by the State Department and relating to the Paris Peace Conference of 1919.

Then, as now, there was economic dislocation, great social unrest, armed clashes and apprehensions for the future. American missions, going abroad, stressed the necessity of aid from this country and the need of dollars to get the economic machine going in the world.

Interestingly enough, two of the problems discussed were: (1) how to curb Communism and (2) how to prevent revenge on the part of defeated Germany. The solutions suggested then, as now, were economic assistance and the restoration of normal world trade.

IT'S YOUR RED CROSS... KEEP IT GOING



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GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager
GEORGE W. AVERILL, Advertising Manager
HAROLD P. BURGER, Editor

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributed material providing it has new value and suggestions that they conform to general newspaper style.

Re: Estate of Ellen Scripps Booth, deceased. James S. Booth, Warren S. Booth, and Harry S. Booth, Executors of said estate, having filed in said court a petition praying that the time for the presentation of claims against said estate be limited and that a time and place be appointed to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands against said estate.

It is Ordered, that two months from this date be allowed for creditors to present claims against said estate.

It is Further Ordered, that the 7th day of June 1948 at nine o'clock of said forenoon, at said probate office, be and is hereby appointed for the examination and adjustment of all claims against said deceased.

ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate.

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Happenings of Long Ago

FIFTY YEARS AGO
March 18, 1938

The new store on Maple avenue is ready for business, and already occupied. W. L. Deir has opened his tannery there, with William Manser operating a boot and shoe shop in the rear.

TO RENT—To a woman or to a man—a lovely five room house. The place is furnished, unfurnished, as the tenant desires.

The M. E. Sunday School is exhorting their superiors the other night which netted them \$14.00 clear profit.

The village election was lame. Only 35 votes were cast and four of those were thrown out as n.g. because they were not marked.

The 10th anniversary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the M. E. Church will be observed at the home of Mrs. Alix Parks on Tuesday. Everybody welcome.

Last Sunday, on account of so much water on the ground causing the tracks to settle, an electric trolley ran off said tracks and caused a lot of excitement. No one was hurt.

The sale of lands for delinquent taxes will be held Tuesday at the county treasurer's office. If you do not pay your taxes, that is what happens. Is your home and land safe?

TWENTY YEARS AGO
March 15, 1928
Thomas Roper, a resident of Southfield, and an ardent aviation enthusiast, died Tuesday night. He celebrated his 100th birthday on October 17.

Blaze of unknown origin, threatened to destroy the Oakland Club Monday afternoon. Prompt and efficient work of the fire department confined the fire to the locker room.

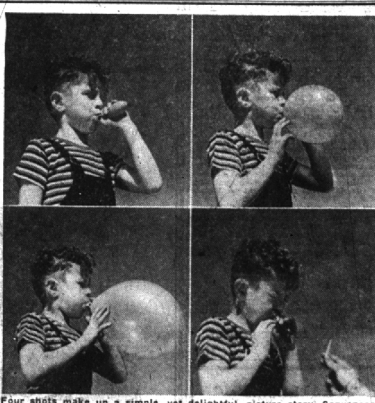
Leon Balknap, county engineer, reports that all roads in this vicinity stood the severe winter in splendid shape. The worst conditions were found to be on Square Lake highway.

The boys of Scout Troop 3 have returned from a busy week end camping on the George Washington estate. They enjoyed the use of several cabins there, and report a wonderful time.

The public ban on dogs running loose on the streets is being enforced here, due to the continued spread of rabies throughout the state. Officials say dog owners owe this precaution to their pets as well as to the general public.

FIVE YEARS AGO
March 18, 1943
Michael Andrews, infant son of

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner



Four shots make up a simple, yet delightful, picture story. Sequences of this type are easy to make, can give added interest to your albums.

Simple Sequence Stories

ONE of the surest ways of adding interest to a snapshot album is to intersperse your snaps with simple stories in sequence.

Such capsule picture stories are as easy to make as any other shot—easier sometimes since you determine your exposure only once for two, four, or six pictures. Often they tell a story which no single shot alone can tell.

Today's four shots, for example, need no word of explanation—the story is in the pictures. And while each snap is itself a pleasing picture, all together catch and hold your interest in a way no one alone could. Even the fourth shot, taken just after the balloon had burst, gains appeal from the buildup which the preceding snaps provide.

Sequences of this sort are strictly up to you, the picture taker. Equipment makes no difference. All that is needed is imagination and the same care you use in making any successful snapshot.

And any number of situations lend themselves to this treatment. A child blowing out the candles of a birthday cake, a group of children coating, other children building a snowman, mother preparing Sunday dinner.

Good Shootin', Mac!



Mr. and Mrs. William Andrews of Birmingham boulevard, was taken to University Hospital at Ann Arbor Wednesday, after he swallowed a pin.

Elmer R. Meeker, owner of the Royal Oak and Birmingham Express company for the past 24 years has sold all rights to the service to the National Transit Corp., of Detroit.

Mrs. Julia K. Lally, director of the Community House, has been granted a six months leave-of-absence, and will leave soon for California. Mrs. Lally has been in poor health for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bracker are giving all credit to their dog Pooch, for the rescue of Skippy, the springer spaniel who had spent 22 days in the bottom of a 36 foot dry well. Pooch heard the other dog's cries and led rescuers to the spot.

The annual concert of Cranbrook school given Sunday, was one of the best in years, according to those in attendance.

Members of the Exchange Club learned the art of making decoy ducks last week when their guest speaker was C. L. Pozzini, who follows the craft as a hobby.

Birmingham is sending over 10,000 books to service center throughout the country. Committee members wish to thank all who so splendidly supported their recent drive.

'Tis Washington

By The Duchess

Does the Gallup poll reflect or make opinion? That question will start an argument anywhere along the Potomac.

Dr. Gallup contends his sampling of public opinion merely mirrors existing sentiment.

But, say the men whose jobs depend on re-election, if the Gallup poll predicted the day before an election a candidate would win, many people would get on the bandwagon and vote for the winner.

Reiden, so much depends on the phrasing of the question asked. Some invite a certain answer.

And, then like all discussion on the Gallup poll, someone always pipes up "by the way, did you ever know of anyone polled by the Gallup poll?"

What's in the mailbag? Nothing gives a congressman more letters than an avalanche of mail giving him back about this and that. Or threatening dire retribution for some bill... or against

He considers what comes in the mail as a "barometer" of public opinion and his own popularity with the voters who sent him to Congress.

Right now the mailbag-barometer indicates that Americans are more interested in local, than foreign affairs.

The survival of the world may be involved in the passage of the Marshall plan, but Mr. Main Street takes in hand to write about the lifting of rent control in his house, the high price of beefsteak, and what's all about the grain going into whiskey, not bread?

Here, everyone is willing "to speak a few words." And does it's an occupational disease along the Potomac.

In defense, one of these orators: "How do I know what I think unless I hear what I have to say?"

The same frank Washingtonian quotes Churchill's advice to a speaker on when to stop a speech: "Make your point, and then at the first sentence with a grammatical ending, sit down."

Here's a present for Henry Wallace. The Democrats have their donkey. The Republicans ride the elephant. The Wallaceites should have a squirrel.

Squirrels like nuts... all kinds. Besides, the squirrel is a busy creature—a little fellow. He scurries around and does the most amazing things. So did the Wallaceites in the 24th district of New York. When Democrat Ed Flynn was asleep, they burrowed deep and continuously and came out with the winning candidate Leo Jacobson of the American Labor Party.

The donkey was balked in his tracks. And it was the elephant, this time, that haw-hawed.

It's confusing. The first-time visitor to Washington these days hurries to the senate to hear the historic debate on the Marshall Plan.

Remembering his school lessons in civics, he expects to find each senator at his desk alertly listening to the oratory of some colleague.

Arriving in the crowded visitors' gallery, he peers down and is astounded to find more page boys than senators on the floor.

A lone senator is talking... almost to himself.

He forgets that most senate work isn't done in debate. The Marshall Plan was threshed out in the Foreign Relations committee and in private confabs between senators and their aides.

The lone senator is not talking to his colleagues or to the galleries. He's speculating for home-town consumption.

His words must be on the record.

In a Washington barbershop, a sign reads "In our business we need your head."

It's too bad that sign, in seven foot letters in the barber shop on Capitol Hill, where the members can get a shave for 25 cents and a haircut for 50 cents.

It would remind those members who need reminding that the business of this nation is not a powerful country on earth calls for their best headwork.

—John van Guilder

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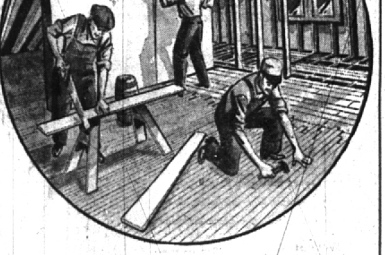
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