

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

George G. Booth

It is given to comparatively few men in a generation to amass tremendous wealth. Fewer, indeed, among men of great wealth, are those who dedicate it to the welfare of others.

But to a man whose creed was: "The only way to have is to give, the only way to keep is to share, and the only thing worth finding is opportunity", the role of the intelligent philanthropist was a practical one for George G. Booth.

His passing, at a Detroit hospital early Monday morning, the community, whose life he and the late Mrs. Booth touched with an emphasis on the artistic and cultural facets of mankind's yearnings for the better life, has lost a brightly burning human beacon.

Yet, because of the careful planning he made during his lifetime, that beacon will continue to burn through the art and educational institutions at Cranbrook that he built and generously endowed.

Too, in the minds and hearts of the many graduates of Cranbrook's institutions, in their lives and activities, live many of the objectives toward which Mr. Booth directed that his wealth be spent.

Another area of the humanities received the impact of Mr. Booth's gifts and talents. It was American journalism—the ethics and objectives to which he devoted much of his adult life.

As president of The Detroit News, and as the directing influence of The Booth Newspapers (eight dailies in that many of Michigan's large cities outside Detroit), the cause of better newspapers was aided by Mr. Booth.

He fought vigorously for the betterment of the communities in which his newspapers circulated; he never tired of leading in the crusade for the better ways of life.

Though possessed of great wealth, his personal needs were simple. Perhaps that is why he desired that when it came time for his mortal self to be restored to Mother Earth he be laid away in Birmingham's quiet Greenwood Cemetery, with the late Mrs. Booth and his father, Henry Wood Booth.

Truly, in his life and in his passing, Mr. Booth measured up to those immortal closing lines of William Cullen Bryant's Thanatopsis: "... sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave like one that wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Russia, it appears, is planning world domination with all the deadly intent of gangsters bent on robbing a bank.

Communism's human symbols, using every weapon at their disposal, seek to enter the vaults of human freedom, to carry off to Siberian coffers, their "swag." It is up to all free men and free women, today, to stand guard at the doors of these "freedom vaults"; for no time in human history was freedom ever without assault.

Michigan is planning world domination with all the deadly intent of gangsters bent on robbing a bank. Communism's human symbols, using every weapon at their disposal, seek to enter the vaults of human freedom, to carry off to Siberian coffers, their "swag."

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Education's Great Need

Michigan's educational system, for many years, has been impoverished.

Teachers need better salaries; children need more buildings and equipment in which to obtain their education.

These facts have been known in Michigan, and other States are, for the most part, in a similar plight.

Now we are told that the University of Michigan, long known as one of this earth's great institutions of higher learning, faces the problem of a declining educational standard.

Unless it gets a larger annual appropriation from the Michigan Legislature, it is presumed that Michigan State College at East Lansing, plus the Michigan's State-supported Teachers' Colleges, also are in need of more funds.

In a world that needs all the education it can give human beings, the cause of the literate and civilized mind is "the forgotten dependent of the State."

The art of educating potential "barbarians" who are in need of all the children are) into rational, compassionate and intelligent adults is the only final guarantee that nations have against every type of evil that besets the human family.

Education is, then, a veritable insurance policy against the negatives of life. It is as deserving of support and protection as the basic cause of freedom itself; for without the development of the individual under the impact and guidance of educators, the jungle growth of selfishness, intolerance, and other offspring of ignorance will obliterate whatever garden of civilization we now have.

In this age of materialistic grasping, we need a voice, or voices, to shout values of the merchandise of education.

When all men and women fight for principle rather than for personal advantages, the so-called human race will move ahead morally and spiritually.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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What about the legislative deficit? Rep. John Espie, veteran member of the house ways and means committee, has introduced legislation that he favors a general reduction of appropriations but no reduction in new laws at the same time.

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Happenings of Long Ago

Several new books have been sent to the local library in the past few weeks.

The members of the Birmingham Chapter, OES, will visit Pontiac Stars at their next meeting, and will show the dangerous state of their minds.

Talk about the growth of Birmingham. There are four new homes in the Randall subdivision and the Builders' Society are talking about putting up a marriage.

Charles T. French caught a moment of leisure at his premises last Friday about 11:30 p.m.

Several suspects have been sprung concerning the shooting of Patrolman Henry M. Shillingbrant, officers of the local county and state police are searching the heavily wooded swamps near Oxford.

George H. Mitchell, founder of the Birmingham Eccentric, and a well known business man, died suddenly Friday, after suffering a heart attack.

Arthur Comey, village planner, conferred with the planning commission under the leadership of his general village plan now under consideration.

Construction has gotten under way for two new dormitories, a study hall and class rooms at Cranbrook School.

Local Shriners are busy in preparation for the gigantic fireworks display which will be held at the Shrine Circus there June 3 to 8.

The resignation of Ralph A. Main, as assistant city engineer, was announced this week.

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Happy Homecoming



From Our (Special Story) LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, San Antonio, Texas—The first co-educational military school operated here...

Lt. Col. Robert C. Hopack threw out his chest and bragged about this first school-of-its-kind, from which 350 men and women will graduate on June 30.

Of 150 officer-candidates, some 18 men and two women are from Michigan.

Set a High Standard "The women candidates are in their uniforms and are of high standard academically," said the Colonel, admitting this keeps...

month to some place of deep interest to them? Another angle is the lack of equipment for the over-all program in the schools.

It would not be a burden to any one club to provide a projector for this purpose. The several which are located here could band together to make the purchase for...

There must be some simple method whereby the Patrol Boys could receive some credit toward their splendid effort and the police more adequately present their safety program.

Have You Met... Former Detroiters, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Blodgett who are now living in their new home at 527 West Lincoln?

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

A strong three-dimensional effect is gained from "framing" the shot of an old house.

Three-Dimensional Effects legal part of the shot, serves as a handy scale of reference.

Before we were through, we'd come up with five methods which help to give your pictures a three-dimensional effect.

Probably the most familiar method is that of framing. Some of the foreground object such as an archway or an overhanging branch to "frame" the subject of the picture.

Another trick to impart a sense of depth to your pictures is the use of a figure to scenic shots. Such a figure, when used as an in-

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Michigan Boys, Girls Enthusiastic Over Air Force Training in Texas

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Michigan Mirror INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By Gene Alleman Michigan's bipartisan government, featuring a Democratic governor and a Republican-controlled administrative board and legislature, has yet to solve the A-1 enigma of averting a treasury deficit.

Republican legislative leaders are willing to adjust state appropriations to current needs, providing the increase is "reasonable," says a source.

If the April election had brought the election of Democratic state officials—highway commissioner and superintendent of public instruction—the state legislature would have been more inclined to accept Governor Williams' claim.

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Internationally Speaking

By Eugene Hess International Market Analyst Is the Dominion of India economically independent since the great political changes of 1948?

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The Birmingham Golf Club

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WABEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM BRANCH—WABEK BUILDING