

Traffic Attracts Business

It appears that the Michigan State Highway Department has belatedly recognized a problem peculiar to these same arteries because of the potential revenue heavy transient traffic is supposed to bring.

Certain states in the East have recognized this problem and forestalled it by purchasing right-of-way for as much as 300 feet back of the concrete strips. This makes it inadvisable for business to locate so far back.

We don't recall who said it, but it comes in handy in connection with the city's annual clean-up week which begins next Monday.

'Clean Up Week' Is Here Again

Whenever you think you are getting to be something pretty super, read about the stars that dot the mysterious universe.

Now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their yards and gardens! Nature, you are reminded, is non-partisan and responds to all who would woo her laws.

The Soviet government is prepared to cooperate in creating a Communist world and nothing else.

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Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO April 28, 1899

Members of a village improvement group have voted to plant a tree in the village park in May.

Fl. Bakelove, our popular dry goods and shoe dealer, has shoes to burn. If you don't believe it, ask him.

One day last week the Melvin family surprised to see a horse poke its head through the horse bay window of their living room.

There are 35 Birmingham boys who are busily working on model planes, each hoping to be selected to represent his home in the national meeting to be held June 21 and 22 in Detroit.

Completion of the work being done at Springdale park will be in time for the public to receive full benefit of its facilities.

Will Benedict is back with his family once more, and full of tales of the far-away Antidile region.

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'Clean-up Week' is being scheduled here for May 15 to 20, according to Mayor Ray C. Palmer.

John Brotzman, a member of the faculty of Barron Junior High School, has been named director of recreation here for the summer season.

John Brotzman announces that he is planning a program of interest to all ages.

Earn What You Want

It might be well for the young people of Birmingham to understand now that the majority of those who have anything in a world that worships money, worked for what they have acquired.

More and more there is the conviction abroad in the world that individuals who do not earn what they have are not entitled to their possessions. There is something in their thought.

Here's an incident that, while amusing, is also serious: the Michigan State Tax Commission is going to hike, and tax, much of the assets of the public utilities, such as the telephone, railroad, electric light, and similar businesses.

You see, folks, in establishing the rates of public utilities, the Michigan Public Service Commission must take into consideration the expense of operating them; and taxes, like labor and materials, cost the utilities real cash.

An ounce of pre-election knowledge of candidates and issues is better than pounds of post-election criticisms.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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tholomew, Bloomfield Hills fire chief and Mrs. Russell Yenger, wife of the farm manager.

Mrs. Cora Farrar, Brown street, has announced that she will nominate for membership on the board of education.

Designated times, to make collection easier? This is asked especially of the manpower and gas shortage.

Two English refugees, Jean and Peter Nicolson, who have been residing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Evans, have returned to their home in England.

The Village Players concluded their very successful season Saturday night when they presented "Night Must Fall."

At the close of the show, "Idiot's Delight," at Grandview auditorium Saturday night an exhibit of 49 prints were stolen from the lobby of the auditorium.

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People's Column

The Eccentric welcomes letters for the People's Column. Letters should be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential unless the writer requests otherwise.

To the Editor: I wish to commend the fact that the "Organization at Lake Success" was one of the important points on the literary of the Baldwin High School debating class on their recent trip to Washington and New York.

It is not a hard thing to arrange a trip like that but to spend a day at the Lake Success is not a hard thing to arrange. Each day the New York papers print instructions on how to procure tickets to the U. N. sessions, giving a telephone number to call.

I feel that it was a tremendously important and enlightening experience. It was there that the Polish Communist delegate proposed a resolution on the "Mindsyntz trial" and in the afternoon sat in the conference room with other delegates.

I was impressed by the patience, dignity and order with which the meeting was conducted, and came away with a greater understanding of the tremendous freedom and understanding that the Russians and their satellites constantly impose.

I realized, for the first time, that here was the "front line" of the struggle for freedom, and that those who are holding that line need the support and understanding of every citizen in this country.

I urge everyone who has the opportunity to attend a U. N. session to go beyond being just a privilege that is granted to them. I think it the duty to go if we can, because the ultimate success of UNESCOP is going to depend on the individual citizens.

Sincerely, Mrs. William H. Selmeier, 1948 Henrietta, Bham.

To the Editor: A preliminary Michigan Committee for UNESCO has recently been organized, and it held its first meeting in Detroit last week, Tuesday.

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Time You Hollered "Uncle" Joe



Cornerstone Laid for 4th Branch of Wabek State Bank

George B. Johnson, president of the Wabek State Bank (Detroit) and Frank Couzens, chairman of the board, played the leading roles in the laying of the cornerstone of a new branch of the bank at the corner of Grand River and Forster at 10:30 Friday morning.

The new branch bank building will be two stories, of brick and stone, and will cost in excess of \$200,000. The second floor will be occupied by the Metropolitan Life Insurance company.

This is the sixth office and the fourth branch to be established by the bank since its incorporation in 1938. The downtown office is in the Ford building and the other two branches are in Birmingham, Ferndale and West McNichols Road, respectively.

Whether they be geographic, political, social, religious, national, racial, linguistic, or barriers of self-hatred and lack of tolerance and mine, across all the barriers that have been erected,

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Close-ups will dramatize your flowers. A close-up attachment or Porta lens, slipped over the camera lens, permits pictures at close range.

Close-ups in the Garden. With black and white film best results outdoors are obtained in early morning hours, or late afternoon.

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INTERNETTING THE NEWS

By Gene Allaman. Out of this amount, the legislature exercises control over about \$221 millions. If you deduct the amount of school money regulated by the state constitution, the net sum is approximately \$140 million, or 30 per cent of the total.

How much money did the State of Michigan receive last year? Including federal grants and special funds like the highway fund, game and fish funds and so forth, the grand total was \$422,982,857.58.

Revenue adjustments plus new economies are being counted on for 1949. At least minimize, the prospective deficit in the state treasury. Governor Williams' estimate of \$171 million deficit, G.O.P. hopes to cut by \$12 million more by next tax by plugging leaks, \$20 million more by a used car transfer tax, \$11 million added to local school districts to pay for teachers' retirement, \$6 millions saved by not repaying the state's share of federal and recovery provisions, and an estimated \$11 million surplus as of July 31.

Check forgery are milking tens of thousands of dollars annually out of Michigan. The national harvest is estimated at \$40,000,000. Forgers usually try to outlast their victims by cashing checks without providing accurate identification.

Michigan's direct relief load is the highest since February, 1942. The cost of living index, U. S. department of labor has dropped for the fifth consecutive month. Economists say present deflation has yet to run its full course. Business will continue to slacken; 1949 will be a good year by pre-war standards.

Couly road commissions favor the Michigan "Good Roads" Federal aid program for a \$29,000,000 boost in gasoline tax and weight tax. Transportation tax increases are opposed. Taxpayers would save \$20,000,000 a year through maximum income tax cuts. Automobile installment payments, according to Senator Harry F. Little (R-Lansing), sponsor of a bill just approved by the Senate.

A move to merge the presidential and state ballots has failed in the Senate. House Bill 238, liberalizing the Federal unemployment compensation program, is being criticized by employers as creating a "hole-in-the-wall" knocking out the present merit-wage program for steady employment.

Old age assistance is becoming old age pensions in some states. California has a \$75 per month pension for persons over the age of 62. The added cost to the state's tax load is estimated at \$12 million for the next fiscal year.

A new type of building block, made out of concrete and sawdust, has been tested by Michigan State College. A Chesaning man erected a home, 22 by 24 feet, at a cost of \$1,500.

Dan Gerber, president of the baby food company at Fremont, heads a committee of the Michigan Economic Development Commission seeking new industries and payoffs for the state. He proposed to speed up wood planting to help produce wood products for the O. J. Industries. He is assured of adequate water resources through a state program of water conservation.

Laying off workers by industries in some Michigan cities has intensified Chamber of Commerce efforts to attract new manufacturing firms to the state. Deflation has also lessened the chances of legislative approval of the state labor program. The general idea seems to be: You can't win and tax/industry at the same time.

W. Virginia Choir To Sing in Pontiac. Mrs. Edwin V. Clarke, 782 Wilcox is in charge of the choir. The spring concert which will be presented by the Capella choir of the W. Virginia State College at the Washington Junior high school in Pontiac on May 3.

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