

What Really Counts
From where we sit in the editorial office of one of the nation's weekly newspapers, it is difficult to know just how far the United States has progressed in being prepared for the next war, if and when it should come. That top-secret is known by only the highest U. S. military circles (and let us hope it has not leaked to Moscow).

Every so often we hear and read that the Army, Navy and Air Forces are still miles apart from where they should be in their unification of services. We used to get worried over this fact, but not any more. By keeping our eyes and ears open, we have discovered another phase to the U. S. military situation which leads us to believe that a future enemy will find America fully prepared for any sudden warlike blow.

Instead of it taking months for this nation to get up full war steam, like it did after Pearl Harbor, it will be a matter of a few weeks the next time. The armed forces are making vast strides in this respect—and this is what really counts. Not whether an Annapolis graduate, in social or political circles, will take upon his hosom a West Pointer.

Traveling by Imagination
Imaginative railroad men are looking for ways to speed up passenger trains which will shoot through pressure tubes, make as interface messages are sent today in vacuum tubes, and cross the Continent in three hours, thus eliminating the need for sleeping accommodations.

Of course the super-train is not coming in the next few years but designers think that, probably, in about one hundred years the railroad of the imagination will become a fact in transportation.

The chances are that the imagination of the railroad men is not far wrong and that, in the course of a century, men and women will be traveling faster than ever before. This development is in line with the progress already recorded and meets the desire of human beings to move around with greater ease and mobility.

Incidentally, the railroads, in their prime, secured the business of travelers because the trains put people where they wanted to go faster than any other method of travel. Today, in competition with the airplane and the bus, the track-bound train is at something of a disadvantage but forward-looking railroad men are at work upon the problem of achieving greater speeds in traveling.

Is anyone in Birmingham old enough to remember when the streets of this city were eight or more inches deep in mud MOST of the time? The only difference today is that some of our streets are now paved, and the rest are not muddy more than HALF of the time.

Have You Met . . .
Former Detroiters, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Sinclair, who are now living at 496 S. Glenhurst St. Mr. Sinclair is a business analyst for automobile jobs.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lucal, formerly of Ann Arbor, who are now living at 112 East Lincoln St. Mr. Lucal is a salesman with Hygienic Products Company.

MORTGAGE SALE—Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by MELVIN L. CONRADY and wife, HELEN L. CONRADY, to FRENCH MORTGAGE CORPORATION, 215 West Street, Detroit, Michigan, on the 1st day of August, A.D. 1947, in favor of 2135 of Oakland County Records on parcel 4187-1, which mortgage there is claimed to be due and interest the sum of ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY AND 42/100 DOLLARS. And no sale or proceeding at said mortgage having been instituted to recover the said second mortgage, the undersigned trustee, therefore, by virtue of the power herein contained, has caused the same to be advertised for sale by public auction, to be held at the County Clerk's Office, County of Oakland in the City of Birmingham, Michigan, on the 21st day of January, A.D. 1949, at eleven o'clock A.M. Eastern Standard Time.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NO. 326 ROAD AND DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS
NUMBER ONE
Notice is hereby given that Special Assessment Roll No. 326, comprising of the road and district improvements to be maintained by the City for the year 1949, is open for public inspection in the Municipal Building in the City of Birmingham, Michigan, from 9 o'clock A.M. to 5 o'clock P.M. on the 1st day of January, 1949, at which time and place opportunity will be given to all persons interested to be heard.

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Learn The Art of Living
The people of Birmingham usually can be counted upon to give general financial support to their school system and the cause of education in general.

For many years, they have been convinced of the economic value of education. While there was a time during the depression years when education failed to insure profitable employment, there is general recognition of the fact that education improves an individual and makes a more efficient human being.

There has been, perhaps, a failure to understand clearly that education is not an end in itself, but a means to more complete living for the individual. Some teachers, in fact, have become so enthused over methods and improvements in the educational system that they have lost sight of fundamental purpose of education itself.

Teaching technique has been perfected to a considerable degree, the distribution of intelligence has been increased and the knowledge of human beings greatly advanced through the ages. Nevertheless, there sometimes seems to be something of a failure to develop the wisdom necessary to make intelligent individuals or to apply knowledge intelligently to the problems of living itself.

Some modern psychiatrists attribute many of the mental ills of the present day to the disparity between abstract knowledge acquired and education as to how to use it in the art of living. Because, with all our intelligence, few of us know how to live and, therefore, many suffer physical breakdowns.

The country will have statements in Congress by statesmanship gets votes. We will not have it as long as we continue to vote for cowboy cronies, kissers, ramblerous, guitar-strummers and other types of publicity-seekers.

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Funeral Services Held Saturday For John Lander
John T. Lander, 49, died suddenly Thursday morning at his home, 6324 Wing Road, East River Road, Birmingham, Mich., after a long illness. He was a graduate of North Carolina University and a veteran of World War I. He was a member of the Oakland Hills Country Club and the Village Players.

Have You Met . . .
Former Detroiters, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dilworth, who are now living at 1740 S. Highland St. Mr. Dilworth is an attorney with offices in the Penobscot Building.

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happenings of long ago

50 YEARS AGO
January 6, 1898
Some mischievous boys tied up a small package and dropped it down the street. It was brought into the office by different finders no less than three times, and was worn out by the bad boys kept securing it each time and setting it again.

A merry company of friends watched the departure of the old and the entrance of the new year at Fairholm. An impromptu program was spiritedly rendered, and refreshments were served during the passing hours. With the singing of the doxology, and "Happy New Year," the company separated, hoping to enjoy many similar reunions.

Meetings are being held and efforts made to bring the electric line from the Sand Hill through Southfield, Franklin and on to Orchard Lake via Irish Corner. If the local citizens of Franklin have their way we will soon be hearing the buzz of the cars through our community.

It is reported that Dr. Smith has his life insured in the Macco-bess and the Foresters for \$2,000 each.

John Busby, the popular and successful superintendent of the electric line was made glad and happy when he was treated with a solid silver tea set given by the employees of the road. The gift is a token of the appreciation which these men hold their genial boss.

Before you say there is no business in Birmingham, just count the number of loaded wagons that come here each day and go away empty and the empty ones that come, and go, and come.

20 YEARS AGO
January 6, 1929
Police have issued the warning that beginning Saturday the war will open on the streets. The police still carry 1927 plates. Motorists have had ample time to get their cars by now. Chief Thomas Anderson said, "and we will not be tolerant any longer."

Fire Chief W. G. Olsen announced that in addition to the paid staff of the station, the number of firemen being contemplated. He mentioned the fact that Vern Griffith had been promoted from lieutenant to captain in the department.

New flood lights were installed at Quanton Lake for the benefit of those who like to fish. The lights are so arranged that even the darkest corners of the cleared area are kept bright. In addition to this, a scraper has been obtained by the village to keep the ice in top condition all times.

The public is invited to view the new Water Tower at the official opening Friday, L. E. Colegrove, spokesman for Senator James Cozzens, owner of the building, said that all stores and offices were already leased, and that many would be occupied on the opening date.

Justice Floyd S. Buck reports that cases appearing in traffic court here during the holidays were exceptionally low. At Birmingham only five were arrested for speeding and two for reckless driving. Other than the one appearing were from out of town.

5 YEARS AGO
January 6, 1943
Carol Smith and Carl Blagman were named half of the Birmingham annual ice carnival at Quanton Lake last Thursday. Features of the day were skating races, figure skating and a hockey game.

Fires, believed to have been caused by an electrical short, resulted in damage estimated at \$1,000 to Embury Methodist Church Sunday. A welder, a fire started in the basement and firemen were able to keep it from spreading into the body of the church. It is believed that services will be held as usual Sunday.

Plans are being made for the graduation exercises of the mid-grade class of 32 at Quanton Lake last Thursday. Diplomats from Baldwin High School, Superintendent Dwight B. Ireland said he wishes to congratulate members of the class for their excellence in scholarship.

Margaret Hall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Hall of Humphrey street became Birmingham's first bride of 1944 at her marriage to John F. Bedford, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bedford, New York City. The wedding was performed by the Rev. W. Glen Harris.

John D. Maynard, 919 Mohagan, has been named president of the Birmingham Y.M.C.A. He is active in several other organizations concerned with the young people of the city and is particularly including the YMCA of Oakland County and its many branches.

James Millebrand Stationed in Cuba
James Millebrand, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Millebrand, 1929 S. Adams, left for Norfolk, Va., the latter part of last week, and will be in Norfolk on Monday of the U.S.S. Valque. He is to be attached to the Naval Air Base, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Jim, enlisted in the Navy last week and is being trained in the background objects and shot at high noon, you know.

Get as many arrangements as you can to fit in with different times in the Birmingham National Bank. Jim has also written for The Eccentric.



People's Column

To the Editor:
I thought you would like to know how we sick people were treated here at the Oakland County Infirmary and Convalescent Hospital. We were treated grand. Everything that goes with a very tender turkey and plenty of it. The sick left the table with a smile and a full tummy. A lot left on the table. Everyone was pleased and happy.

I thought you would like to know how I give credit for all this. Christmas to Mr. Charles Huntington and W. H. Young, for they sure had a good job. You may get the information if you wish. I have them on hand to know that they were thought of.

It is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Blythe Watt, 19695 Knoch boulevard, Rocky River, Ohio. His wife, Mrs. Audrey Watts, lives at 268 Pilgrim road, Birmingham, Mich.

CHARLES C. FIELD
2200 N. Telegraph Road
Pontiac, Mich.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

PICTURE OF THE WEEK, Dramatically framed by old buildings, this is lower Manhattan as it looks to a movie of Brooklyn. It's a pity there were no clouds available, but you can't have it all. The top hat at work add interest. Some might prefer a sharper focus on the piles and shooting with a wide angle lens a few feet farther back. Mark the position of the horizon. The exposure was 1/50 second at f16.

Ever take a landscape or seascape that was just about perfect—except for a bald-headed sky with nary a cloud in it? It often makes the difference between a fine picture and a mediocre one. Well, you can't whistle up a good cloud formation every time you need one, but there's an easy way to take one.

The purists will tell you it isn't nature that's in clouds that nature didn't provide when you shot the scene. Nonsense. Your camera, film and filters are merely tools to use with all your ingenuity. A painter paints in clouds that aren't there and nobody scolds him.

A Backlog of Clouds
First thing to do is to build up a file of cloud negatives. Pick a day when the clouds are out in spectacular force. Forget the picturesque backgrounds and foregrounds, and get those clouds. While the getting is good, shoot them with any filter and no filter at all. And shoot them at all points of the day and all angles of the compass. You don't want to print in clouds taken in the afternoon over a scene taken at high noon, you know.

Now remove negative No. 1. From the enlarger and place the cloud negative in the holder. We assume that you've selected it carefully, from your collection, making sure that the sunlight as the clouds comes from the same angle as the sunlight on the negative in the holder. We assume that you've selected it carefully, from your collection, making sure that the sunlight as the clouds comes from the same angle as the sunlight on the negative in the holder. We assume that you've selected it carefully, from your collection, making sure that the sunlight as the clouds comes from the same angle as the sunlight on the negative in the holder.

From here on it's simply a matter of printing one negative at a time while you very carefully mask off the sections, top or bottom, where you don't want to print. Maybe you won't get it quite right the first time or the second time, but you'll get a good picture a lot quicker than if you had to wait for the clouds to roll by.

Michigan Mirror
INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By Gen. Allenman
LANSING—G. Mennen Williams, Sigler's appointee to the state liquor control commission, was inaugurated Governor of Michigan here on New Year's Day.

He received the good wishes of his predecessor, the ex-governor prosecutor who was swept from the office on a reform wave only to be defeated two years later in a similar "reform" Williams now has the opportunity and responsibility of writing his own record during 1949 and 1950.

One chapter of this record will cover his stand on maintaining law and order through the aid of the Michigan State Police during labor strikes. "Soapy" Williams, so known to his friends, had the fanatic support of CIO unions during the 1948 fall campaign. He proposed repeal of the law on Tripp labor relations act. He urged increase in unemployment compensation, old age and mothers' pensions, and a new state labor department. He proposed repeal of the law on Tripp labor relations act.

It may be assumed therefore that Governor Williams will be friendly to organized labor. He is said to have the personal blessing of a Justice Frank Murphy whose decision not to enforce constitutional law and order in 1937, when he was governor.

Dudley M. Blakely Leaves Cranbrook For Boston Post
Dudley M. Blakely, preparator and staff artist at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, is leaving this week to begin his duties as director of exhibits at the Boston Museum. Blakely has been a member of the Cranbrook staff for 10 years.

Internationally Speaking
By Eugene Heaz
International Market Analyst
In all that turmoil surrounding the big strikes in the fall of 1948, France, outstanding it has been, has not been forgotten. At the time the French public has received foreign inspiration from the strikers. This has strengthened the backbone of the government.

Has Written Articles
Blakely has written several articles which have appeared in art magazines, and has done illustrations for scientific and natural history publications. While at Cranbrook, he did cast the Cranbrook seal in bronze.

A flashlight for children is designed to prevent bulb breakage when the flashlight is accidentally dropped.

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THE BEST WAY TO SAVE IS TO START SAVING
Once you start saving regularly, every payday, it becomes a habit. Your savings, month-by-month, grows by itself. Then comes the day when you have not merely savings, but actually security.

The important thing is to make a start. A dollar does it—for that's all you need for opening a savings account for yourself or for each of your children.

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