

People are funny. If the average citizen saw a burglar in his neighbor's house, he'd call the police and then help to catch the thief. Why, then, do good citizens stand idly while public servants loot them via taxes?

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART 2

Thursday, July 14, 1949

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Navy Reservists Undergo Training at Grosse Ile

Among the 100 men who are now receiving an eight weeks training course at the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station are several from the Birmingham area. It has been announced by Captain James F. Walker, commanding officer of the Grosse Ile base.

Included in the group are William F. Kenfrew, 219 Henley; Frank E. Colby, 1870 Hillcrest; Harry S. Gruber, 884 Knox; Russell W. Layland, Jr., 451 Lake Park; Walter S. McPhail, 1122 Brookwood; Gerald J. Lange, 964 Floyd; Herbert J. Strader, Jr., 1785 Webster; Robert H. Brown, Jr., 560 W. Lincoln, all of Birmingham; John A. Fricker II of Franklin, and Lee C. Hanson, 6643 Putnam, Walnut Lake.

These young men will receive a complete indoctrination into the Navy during the summer months at Grosse Ile and upon completion of their course will become a part of the organized reserve at Grosse Ile reporting to the station each weekend each month for further training.

Covers Many Subjects
Among the subjects covered are seamanship, Navy customs and traditions, military drill, air safety, navigation, and many others designed to equip them to take an active part in a reserve squadron. A well rounded program of physical education including swimming, tennis, baseball and other organized athletics is compulsory.

"This is an excellent opportunity for these men to begin their Navy careers," said Captain Walker. "When they have finished their eight weeks of training, they will be fully qualified to begin working on a specialty course such as electronics, aviation mechanics, aircraft radio, or any of the other highly technical subjects now being taught to members of the organized reserve reporting for part time duty on weekends."

While the eight weeks course has been closed for further enrollment, there remain opportunities for weekend training in the organized reserve for those qualified. Call, write or visit the Grosse Ile Naval Air Station for information. Capt. Walker suggested.

Convention Report

The only Birmingham Rotarian to attend last month's Rotary International convention in New York City, Victor Peck told his fellow Rotarians at their Monday noon luncheon about the events at the annual meeting.

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Bits of Birmingham

Mrs. Max H. Fruhauf of Brookside drive, in Bloomfield township, has a flock of 50 pet Peking ducks. She has a house on the Rouge that flows behind the Fruhauf residence. But Sunday afternoon she discovered that the backs of one mother duck and her brood of six were broken. Mrs. Fruhauf believes it is the work of some untrained or poorly trained bird dog who went after and in this manner killed the mother and her ducklings. She advises other persons with homes along the Rouge and who have similar pets to guard against this destruction.

The north end of a horse looking south can be a very startling sight, especially from your living room window early in the morning. You can take the words of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Phelan, 2841 Pembroke, for this. They looked out their front window last week to find a horse backed thoughtfully against it. It seems the stall was empty and the gate was open for a little while. Mr. Phelan, after he recovered from the surprise, returned the animal to its owner.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES—This Wanderer noticed a car parked on Woodward avenue last week, bearing signs of the times. Painted on the windshield were four of those "cute" little five-dollar use tags, and an "A" ration card.

Oops! We made a mistake last week—a dreadful mistake. We accused a local citizen of using a steam whistle to try to remove the startings from his property and find we were wrong in our assumption. The gentleman just fired the boiler of an old steam thrasher and let neighborhood youngsters toot the whistle now and then to celebrate the Fourth. He figured it made a satisfactory noise, as far as the kids were concerned, and was a whole lot safer than firecrackers. Wish we were a kid living in his neighborhood. It sounds like fun!

The Eccentric received a note from Mrs. A. D. Jarboe this week, which was just up the Wanderer's alley and read: "As I was writing a check for another year's subscription to The Eccentric, the thought came to me that for 27 years I've been doing this, for

we're old residents here. How many remember Billy McBride's store first on the south side of West Maple and later on up to a date store on the north side with a pot bellied stove and all where one purchases their children's shoes on one side and on the other, the week's food supply. By the way, I was police woman for the City of Birmingham for two years, previously working for the county as a social service capacity under Sheriff Schram some 20 years ago."

It's a lot easier walking along the east side of Bates street, between Maple and Martin, isn't it? Probably because for the first time there is now a new cement sidewalk at this point. This Wanderer wonders how many pairs of deer feet have trod the former dirt stretch in this downtown spot. Now if the city would only see to it that the few remaining unpaved walking paths are covered with cement.

The local woman who purchased a snow shovel last week for a shower for Steele Sellers created quite a commotion among the hardware people here. This Wanderer learns Sellers, now on his honeymoon, married Jeanne L'Hommedieu Saturday evening at Christ Church Cranbrook. But back to the main story; the local woman who Sellers would be needing a snow shovel next winter, and figured no one else at the shower would present him with one. She apparently was right. The first two hardware stores she called hanged up the receiver when she asked if they had a snow shovel. The third store called was a little more civil and they had one but seemed skeptical over the sanity of the caller (it was 94 degrees that day). Going to the store to pick up the item, she saw everyone staring at her as though she was nuts. But she stuck to her guns, made the purchase anyway and Sellers has a new snow shovel.

Hot dogs cooked in nine seconds—hamburgers in 12, will be available in vending machines, topped off with a vitamin capsule vendor. (Not to mention neckties, socks and underwear, which the manufacturer plans to have in the machines.)

YMCA Softball League Starts Second Half Play

The second half of the Birmingham YMCA — City Recreation Softball League got underway with Craig's Sporting Goods Store scoring somewhat of an upset victory over Michigan Bell Telephone Company. The score was 12 to 5 and the red jersey lads representing Craig's were out on a front all the way.

Ten batters faced Raymie McBride of the Telephone nine in the fourth inning and most of them hit safely to push over five runs. They duplicated their feat in the fourth inning and scored another run on an infield error.

In the meantime, Connie Adams, on the mound for Craig's, struck out seven batters and allowed only six scattered hits. Gene Richardson with 4 hits in 5 official times at bat led the Craig attack. Ted Atwell, playing right field for Michigan Bell, had two out of three and made several nice running catches of fly balls.

The Caltrider nine kept up its winning ways with a 5 to 2 victory over Sumner Motor Sales. The score is no indication of the closeness of this contest.

In the fourth inning with Sudden on second and Braidwood on first for Caltrider's, Chet Myren tagged one that had all the earmarks of a home run. Kirby speared the clothes-line drive in deep center with his bare hand, wheeled around and fired the ball into Fralick, covering second base for the double play. They could have easily made a triple play as all runners were out and go and did not have time to return to their bases.

Caltrider's scored two runs in the fourth and sixth innings to insure the victory. Roge Reynolds, pitching for the blue jersey team, allowed four hits and struck out five.

Game Is Protested
Birmingham Men's victory over Great Lakes Suburban Greyhound is up before the protest board on account of a mis-interpretation of the rules in the second inning of their game in which an umpire's decision allowed two runs to score. If the game is declared "no contest", it will be replayed July 19 at Torrey field.

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Men at Torrey Field: Michigan Bell Telephone tangles with W. A. Caltrider at Howarth, Field; and Craig's Sporting Goods Company gets Great Lakes Greyhound at St. James Park. All contests start at 6:30 p.m.

Schedule of Games
This is the third round schedule for the tournament's second half play (all games will start at 6:30):
July 14 Sumner vs. Birmingham Men at Torrey, Michigan Bell vs. Caltrider at Howarth, Craig's vs. Greyhound at St. James, July 18 Michigan Bell vs. Birmingham Men at Howarth, Sumner vs. Greyhound at St. James, July 21 Craig's vs. Birmingham Men at Torrey, Michigan Bell vs. Sumner at St. James, Greyhound vs. Caltrider at Howarth, July 25 Greyhound vs. Birmingham Men at Torrey, Sumner vs. Caltrider at Howarth, Craig's vs. Michigan Bell at St. James.

Photographs for publication in The Eccentric must be submitted by Friday noon of the week before publication.

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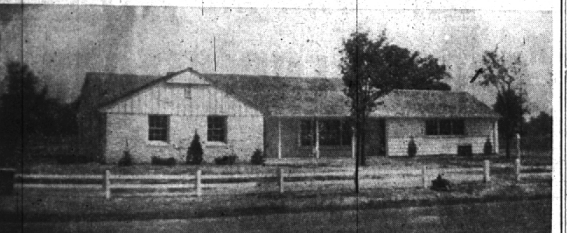


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Eye-catching and always attractive, the sheer loveliness of the exterior of this home makes it truly outstanding. Equally impressive is the character and design of all the supporting properties in the immediate area. Spacious indeed are the principal rooms—a 16 x 24 living room plus bay, and the dining room 15 1/2 x 16; den 10 x 14. Maid's room is off the kitchen. There's a lovely awning-covered terrace not shown in the picture. Macadam surfaced drive, beautiful trees and a broad 150' lawn are other features. Easy walk to Woodward too!

Owner leaving town—first time offered—\$34,500

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