

Around The Cracker Barrel

Almost forty-seven years ago, in 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt ordered that the original Declaration of Independence be sealed in an air-tight, light-proof container, to prevent its destruction by moisture or light. It is very likely, then, that few present Americans have ever seen the original document. Yet we know it exists in writing on parchment, and in writing on our hearts.

And as we approach our 173rd national birthday, it would be interesting to speculate on how many of the signers of the Declaration contemplated this nation would continue on. Picture these men gathered in that hall in Philadelphia, then a small city with cobble stone streets. They would be dressed in velvet breeches, short coats, and wearing powdered wigs. It must have been warm. They listened intently as the Declaration was slowly read, and likely nodded their heads in approval as the velveteen sermons of their tyrant king were catalogued. These wrongs had hurt them personally, as they had all of the other people in the Colonies. But they must have felt just a bit dubious as these same wrongs were attributed to their brethren in England. The very use of the word "brethren" in the Declaration seems to indicate a softer feeling toward their fellow citizens on the island than they had toward George III.

After the reading, and the chairman of the convention, John Hancock of Massachusetts, had affixed his bold and daring signature to the document, there must have been a few moments of doubt in the minds of some. As the chairman called their names, and peered out over his half-moon glasses, a few knees must have knocked as man after man went up to affix his name. And not a few of them must have believed that they were signing their own death warrants.

For the War of the Revolution was far from over, indeed was not proceeding too well. And to let one of fifty-six hold men who would sign so vigorous a criticism of their own sovereignty, must have made many of them feel that their hand was all too small. Surely they must have felt a bit relieved when the final treaty of peace was signed some seven years later.

Again, many of these signers who were still living, must have felt a bit uneasy in the early 1800's as Britain continued to prey on American commerce. And you can see some of these men, who would be much older now, wondering if those hot-headed Southerners, John C. Calhoun and Henry Clay, were not too tempestuous in their demands for another war with Britain in 1812. Can't you see them shake their heads a bit, and wonder if they weren't tempting fate once too often? For Britain was then one of the world's greatest nations, and we were weak.

But the Treaty of Ghent, in 1814, ended that war, and the nation passed from "gloom to glory." It is rather amazing that we ever signed that treaty, for not a single word appeared about British seizure of American sailors or ships—the practice that caused the war. We must have wanted peace. And there must have been some sort of a "understanding" for the British ceased the objectionable practice. Likely, too, the British wouldn't want a statement in the treaty that they would stop such acts, as such a statement would be a violation of the acts, and that they had violated international law.

Once again we tangled with the British. This time it was the Civil War, when the Island Empire aided the Confederacy. But the British have never indulged in helping another nation unless they themselves were to be benefitted, so their help to the South was not too freely offered, was not felt too keenly by the North.

The British decided to sit out the Spanish-American War. They must have wondered a bit at our being worked into a frenzy by two of our own newspapers, yellow sheets, and at our decision to free the natives of Cuba, by taking the Philippines. Even though this war was presumably fought on an altruistic and moral plane, it must have aroused the British to watch it turn into a war of imperial conquest. As Americans we should be grateful that this was our one lapse in this direction.

The last two world wars are too fresh in our memory to need any review. Again, after our Spanish-American lapse, we went to war because of principles. We fought for the freedom of men, for the oppression of tyrants.

So if these fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence could have foreseen the willingness of their fellow Americans, through 173 years, to take up arms in support of men everywhere who believed that government "derived their just powers from the consent of the governed," then perhaps they would have signed without the slightest mental reservation, and without even a faint trace of personal fear.

Let us resolve to be no less afraid than those fifty-six men. Let us, on this 173rd birthday, renew again our faith in our America, and make for ourselves a new Declaration of Independence which will free us from mental fears of any and all of the world's tyrants. And as we make such declaration, each to himself, let us end it with the words of the original Declaration. . . . "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our Sacred Honor."

Ross S. Campbell
Proprietor

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United Fund Goal May Reach Two Million, Directors Told at Annual Meeting Last Week

With a recommended campaign goal of just under \$2,000,000, and the possibility of adding an additional \$5 or 6 agencies to the 19 present members of the United Fund, the United Health and Welfare Fund of Michigan opened its campaign for its second annual campaign by re-electing James M. Shackleton of Saginaw, president at its annual meeting in Lansing last Thursday.

Other officers elected were: vice-presidents, W. C. Armstrong of Niles, C. L. Brody, J. M. Maynard, and Edward G. Hacker of Lansing; Harold M. E. Thurston of Muskegon, Edward C. McCobb of Grand Rapids, R. E. Miller of Okemos, George A. Osborn of Sault Ste. Marie, and Dan Gerber of Fremont, and J. M. O'Rourke, W. A. Calvin Patterson and August Scholle of Detroit, R. F. McKim of Lansing was re-elected treasurer.

Inclusion Requested
In a report prepared by James K. Watkins, chairman of the committee and budget committee, it was reported that all of the 19 present participating counties in the fund had requested inclusion in the second campaign. It is anticipated that the committee probably would recommend the inclusion also of the National Association of Cerebral Palsy, Michigan Welfare League, Leader Dog League for the Blind, Epilepsy Society, Sister Elizabeth's Home, Foundation for Polio and the Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory for Cancer Research.

J. M. Maynard, state campaign chairman, reported that Michigan United Fund campaign raised \$1,091,858. He pointed out that the job this year was more than that of raising money, but also introduced a new idea. Average production of the campaigning counties, he said, was just over \$9 per acre.

Thirty-four counties, representing 80 per cent of state giving potential, actually organized for campaigns, he said.

Maynard added that 17 counties, which did not campaign, made available funds from requests to apply toward the United Fund goal. Twenty counties have sponsoring committees and plan to join other counties in campaigning in the second drive and 12

28 Area Boys Leave for Camp Nissokone on Thirty-Day Trip

Boarding the charter bus in front of the Birmingham YMCA this morning were John Applegate, Robert Kelley, Tom Sheehan, Dale and Jay Simons, Bobby Stevenson from Bloomfield Village; Leonard Bishop, Nickie Bodor, Albert John and Leo Butzal, Jeffrey Crawford, William Hoke, Charles Hummel, Edwin Mulock, Billy Rutten, Robert Sauer, Donald and Richard Thacker, Tim Usher and Frank Whitney from Birmingham; James Goull, Tom and Chip Crater, (former Birminghamers) from Pittsburgh, Pa., and Kenneth Hanna, Michael MacIntosh, Spicer and Roger Ward from the environs of Birmingham.

The boys will arrive at Camp Nissokone near Okocina, Mich., in time for a steak dinner this evening and 30 days of camping on beautiful Lake Van Etten.

John L. Stone, camp executive, and Douglas Salisbury, director, stated that more than 124 boys from the greater Detroit area will be checked in and assigned to 18 cabins by nightfall. The camp, divided into junior and senior sections, will display a new life raft, a new dock and diving platform for the juniors, and many cabins repainted and completely re-furnished with new appointments.

A veteran counselor staff will greet the boys and see that their stay in camp is not only an enjoyable one, but educational as well.

Plans are now underway for the annual "Dad's" weekend July 16 and 17 when, a motored car will be leaving Birmingham for this event. Members of the committee in charge of transportation are Martin Butzel, Don Chaffee and Arbie Thalacker.

HANG ON!
IF YOU WANT TO ENJOY YOUR TRIP...
IT'S TRUE!
STICK WITH YOUR BOAT!
CANOE SAFETY

Detroit Gold Hats Lose to Culver Team

By Dorothy Kelly
Bob Schless, outstanding young polo player from Culver Military Academy, Culver, Ind., scored his seventh goal after 15 seconds of overtime play to give his team a 10 to 9 win over the Detroit Gold Hats at the Detroit Polo Club Sunday afternoon.

About 500 fans saw the Culver team of Schless, Bob Gray, Maurice Housman of Grand Rapids and Major Charles Maul come from behind in the last chucker to tie and win in the overtime.

Al Poole, Harold Troy, Perry Williams and Volney Bayley made up the Gold Hats team. Poole was high scorer with five goals.

On Sunday, July 31, a game will be played by the Gold Hats and the Pontiac Eagles at 3:30 p.m., at Fourteen Mile and Middlebelt roads.

"Now, you little goodnick, because spades were hid by West South knew there was a perfect end-play. He cashed the diamond king and ruffed the six stripping West of everything but spades. Then he led a low spade toward dummy. West put up the ten and was permitted to hold the trick. So West had to lead away from his king-jack, giving South two made trumps and a top score on the board."

OAKLAND COUNTY DUPLICATE BRIDGE RESULTS

Birmingham Community House, Wednesday evenings. Open to the public, June 22. North & South; Sammy Hyams and Hank Georgia; P. J. McIlhenny and Ted Nellis. East & West: Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Richards; Harry Weller and Dick Mavis.

Portia, Hotel Waldron. Monday evenings. Open to the public. June 20. (Howell game.) First: F. J. Kraus and Sammy Hyams. Second: Ernest and Elizabeth Guy.

Hills Board Sets School Entrance Age

At its regular June meeting, the Bloomfield Hills board of education passed a resolution to comply with a recently enacted state law regarding entrance age for kindergarten children.

The law stipulates that school district children who are five years old or will be on December 1, 1949, will be accepted for enrollment next September in district schools. Hills School Superintendent John Jacobs said.

This policy is also in effect in the Birmingham school district.

The SCORE PAD

By Jim Gray
(Seize and possess at the bridge table. Other settings.)

"I did it," said Josephus, Duke of Diamonda, gleefully. "I need him up!"

The Spade brothers looked at one another and guffawed. "I ten, spirts, you say you did it? What do you mean you did it? We did it. We—us—we did it!"

"I started it, then."

"How did you start it, you runt?" We started it! We—us!"

"I was played."

"Yeah—but we were hid."

"Oh, you big lugs, make me sick. Lie down there where you were and I'll show you."

South
S—A 9 5 2
H—J 10 7 6
D—K J 6 4
C—Q 10 8 7

West
S—K J 10 7 6
H—8 7 6 5
D—Q 9 8 2
C—Q 8 7 5 4 3

South
S—Q 4 3
H—A K Q 9 3
D—A J 6
C—A J 6

"Now, here's what happened. South was in a four-heart contract. And when he saw the dummy he kicked him self for not letting North play the hand in three no-trump."

"Okay, amoeba, we know all that. But don't forget—we were hid."

"Alright, alright—so you were hid. West slipped a spade bid into the auction somewhere. Anyway, a trump was opened by West and South drew three rounds of trumps."

"And ditched a diamond from dummy on the third round."

"Okay, he ditched a diamond. Then the dope was in a steve over possible losers—five of them—two spades, two diamonds, and one

In Spare Time

To prepare the DPW yard on Eton road for eventual permanent improvement, crews will use spare moments leveling off and filling in the unused portion of the yard toward the railroad tracks. City Manager Donald C. Egbert reported to the city commission Monday evening.

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.—Matthew 19:19.



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