

Do you take time out, at regular intervals, to write to friends and acquaintances in other cities? A letter, or brief note, requires only a few minutes... yet such minutes maintain the consistency of friendship. A good letter, at the right time, may do much for that neglected friend!

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART 3

Thursday, May 12, 1944

REPUTATION

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Fowler Explains Proper Erection of Rural Delivery Boxes

Bernard E. Fowler, acting postmaster for Birmingham, announces that the postoffice department has designated this as Rural Letter Box Improvement Week, and asks the cooperation of residents on local routes.

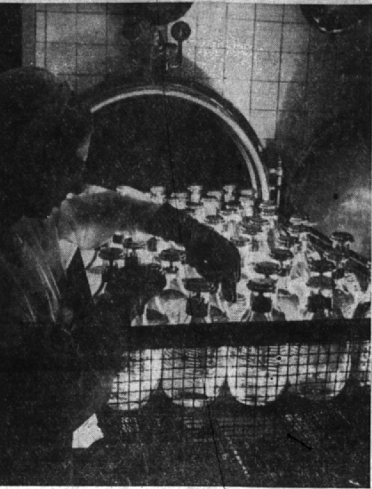
After several appeals which have been issued from the postoffice, there are some boxes which remain improperly identified. "This," says Fowler, "tends to delay delivery of mail."

"In order to receive mail on a rural route," Fowler continued, "all patrons are required to have an approved rural mail box with their name and street number plainly painted on it. Boxes should be placed so they can be easily reached by the carrier without leaving his conveyance. Each box should be mounted on a substantial pole, with between three and four feet from the ground to the bottom of the box on the right hand side of the road in the direction the carrier travels. Where boxes are grouped closely together, the name and address should appear on the front of the box, as well as the side."

Fowler pointed out that it is to the advantage of the patron to meet these requirements so that his mail will be delivered to him without delay and without error.

The Chicago Board of Trade was responsible for establishing universal uniform weights and measures for the marketing of grain 94 years ago.

Instruments Sterilized in An Autoclave



In its sterile supply room, the new Southern Oakland Hospital will have an autoclave similar to the one shown in this photograph, taken at one of Greater Detroit's voluntary hospitals. By the use of this apparatus all the instruments used in the hospital's operating suite, delivery rooms and other departments will be sterilized to protect patients against infection.

(Editor's Note: What the construction of a new 200-bed hospital will mean in increased hospital care and better health for the residents of Southern Oakland County is told in a series of articles of which this is the seventh. Toward the project \$2,000,000 has been allocated by the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund now beginning a campaign for \$12,000,000. The Fund's over-all program embraces ten leading hospitals in Greater Detroit to be enlarged and equipped and four new ones to be built and equipped.)

"I saw patients die from septic diseases after the slightest operations or injuries," wrote a doctor in 1872. Today all the antiseptic precautions worked out so carefully and fought for so valiantly by such medical progress as Lister and Pasteur, are routine procedures in modern hospitals. Meticulous attention to aseptic technique has all but eliminated the danger of infection in surgery.

That is why a thoroughly modern central sterile supply department will be one of the important units of the new 200-bed Southern Oakland Hospital to be built in this community.

Effective Weapon

One of the most effective weapons of the hospital in its war on disease is cleanliness, but simple cleanliness such as a good housewife practices, is not enough. In the hospital, this virtue has been transformed into a science requiring special equipment and elaborate procedures by skilled personnel.

Outside the hospital any utensil or vessel which has been scrubbed in soap and water, or any piece of linen which is unstained, is assumed to be clean. Science, however, has found that an object which seems clean to the eye may carry germs which are deadly in an operating or delivery room. Thus all surgical and obstetrical supplies are cleaned, then steam-sterilized in huge drums called autoclaves at temperatures as high as 250 degrees Fahrenheit. No living organism can long survive such a steam bath. Any object coming out of an autoclave is

Clean as Possible

All this is above and beyond the ordinary scrubbing, cleaning and polishing which, of course, must be done in a hospital as well as anywhere else.

Even clean instruments and supplies are not enough. People in the operating or delivery room must be as clean as humanly possible. No one is permitted to enter until he has put on a sterile gown, a sterile cap which covers his entire head, a sterile mask over his mouth and nose. The surgeon scrubs his hands until they are clean as hands can be, then dons sterile rubber gloves before he touches an instrument.

Toward the construction of the new Southern Oakland Hospital, \$3,500,000 has been allocated by the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund, which is now beginning a program to raise \$19,720,000 to help build four new hospitals, including Southern Oakland, and expand ten leading hospitals in metropolitan Detroit.

Have You Met? . . .
Former Detroiters, Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Storey of 1836 Humphrey and their daughter, Judith. Mr. Storey is department manager with the Shell Oil Company.

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No Tax Levy for Hospital Authority

The Southern Oakland Hospital Authority, established several

years ago for the promotion of the proposed Woodward General Hospital, has informed the Birmingham city commission that the SOHA requires no tax levy for the coming fiscal year.

How GOOD is INSURANCE!

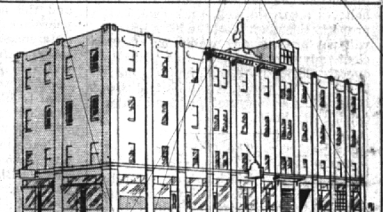
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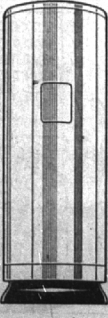
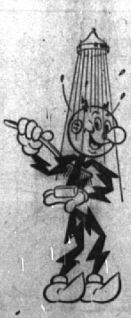
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