

The People Will Have to Decide

City Planning Commissioner James J. Hogan has advanced the suggestion to the plan commission that the city-owned Springdale Park be sold and that proceeds of the sale be used to develop other recreational areas within the city.

Hogan points out that the park is used mainly by outsiders, and would require considerable expenditures on the part of the city to make the park more suitable and attractive to Birmingham residents.

"The city would have to subsidize the park if it were limited to Birmingham's use," he declares. "And we all know the city hasn't got the money to do it."

The plan commission hasn't taken any action on this matter yet, for it will require considerable study on the advantages and disadvantages of such a move.

Such a move, if taken, will have considerable effect on the city's recreational future. If the park is sold, it could mean the faster development of other recreational areas.

Either way, it is up to the general public to decide—it is their property and their program. We believe the plan commission will withhold definite action until the opinions expressed indicate a true picture of the community's feeling.

Paint A House In 152 Seconds

Ninety-six union house-painters slipped a complete coat of white paint on a one-story, five-room home in two minutes and thirty-two seconds.

The work was performed by the painters as their contribution to a home which is the community of New Brunswick, N. J., is given to Robert W. Hoelzel, a paraplegic war veteran. Some 1,000 persons donated in one way or another to the erection of the house.

It is not very important whether the painting job was done in record-breaking time, but it is refreshing to note, in this day of haste and bustle, with everybody looking out for himself, such an incident which demonstrates the fundamental goodness of human beings.

Every once in a while, the wire services carry news stories telling about the generous action of men and women. There would be more of these unselfish performances if all of us stopped long enough to think about the misfortunes of others.

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO May 26, 1899 Birmingham newlywed, if you want a delightful wedding trip you will not likely need acquaintances, take one of the D & C new passenger steamers Island of Cool Breezes. It will be a trip you will never forget and never tire of talking about.

It will be pleasing to many to know that the water wheel at Birmingham is now running the whole 24 hours. The new departure and departure step forward took place last Friday.

Liman Hood, returned soldier of the 19th regulars, has his head all bandaged and looks like a head of Sam Jun. Sunshing advises his friends it happened after his return home, while he was examining some machinery in a power house.

Howard King, our ball player, left home Monday last to catch for the Hart, Mich. ball players. This club has a great name for playing the national game. King felt sure Howard will keep the club at the head of the race.

Alfred C. Chatfield, who has served nine years in the army, has a discharge in his pocket and is ready to go home. He visits with his father, Ira Chatfield in this village. He can tell you stories that will thrill blood and twist your hair into knots.

Several motorists, an airplane pilot and his two passengers escaped serious injury when the plane crashed at the intersection of 12 Mile road and Southfield. Clinton Gatty of

Never Forget: Just a little over four years ago the We Won the War

along with those of other allied nations rejoiced that victory had been won in Europe and that the world would settle down to a long era of peace as soon as the Japs were polished off. This didn't take as long as we thought at the time.

Since that day the public has been informed by a host of public speakers that we won the war but lost the peace. Hardly a public appearance was made without some pious words about what we must do immediately in order to win the peace.

The whole idea was absurd. We won the war in Europe when Germany and Italy were toppled over and the threat of Hitlerism removed from the world. The victory was terrific and unquestioned, regardless of what the years to come might bring. We won the war in the Far East when the Jap effort to dominate the Pacific region went down in blood.

It might be a good idea for us to keep in mind the elemental fact that wars are won when the enemies are vanquished. To thwart the purpose of the enemy is to be completely successful in a conflict. The problems that arise afterwards, their solution or aggravation, have nothing to do with the question of victory or defeat and it is rather foolish for us to deny our appreciation of those who fought for us by asserting that their effort was for nothing.

It has come to pass that when one thinks of the year 1945 he may be forgiven if he overlooks the fact that it is the home of the great Ford Motor Co., and only recall that it has a mayor who gets into various scrapes, and makes much noise.

One fashion designer, we read, predicts shorter skirts for women. This ought to make the men sit up and take notice.

Time and a half in pay, in most cases, should only follow time and a half in interest and work.

It appears that even a cold war costs money—and plenty of it.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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Dearborn, pilot, said he had just taken off and had reached a 50 foot altitude when the wings caught and he lost control of the ship.

H. M. Root was painfully burned about the face Saturday while working in Royal Oak at the Detroit Edison company. Root, working with David Hughes of Royal Oak when the two men came in contact with a live wire and plunged 50 feet from the pole on which they were working, to the ground.

The decelerator has arrived, and police will begin their campaign against defective brakes in Birmingham. The measure is sponsored by the Michigan Safety Council, and while drivers are not obliged to have their cars checked, they are advised to do so for their own safety as well as that of others on the highway.

Two "Peter Manns" arrived in Birmingham on the succeeding days. Peter Reid Mann was born in England and resided in the town of Sufield road on May 18, while the following day Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Mann of Bay View Terrace announced the birth of their son, Peter Mellen Mann.

Since Bob Allen has been on the city commission he has taken a great deal of interest in the city for children. Now he asks that all parents instruct their youngsters to use the sidewalks. Mr. Allen says that it is a common sight to see boys and girls walking along the street on their school shoes, especially along Adams. "The walks are there, please have your children use them," he urges all parents.

5 YEARS AGO June 1, 1944 Erdman Harris, M.A., Th.D., of Lawrenceville School, New Jersey, will be the commencement speaker at the Cranbrook exercises Saturday morning. The commencement exercises will be held in the auditorium of Christ Church Cranbrook. Dr. Harris is the author of several books written especially for young people of this day.

Victory gardeners here, who have been fretful because of excessive rain are being advised by state agriculturalists that there is still plenty of time for gardens to be planted, without damage to the crops.

The annual St. James pet parade created an unusual amount of interest among local youngsters, this year. Prizes were awarded to a members of youngsters, with silver dollars for the prettiest; cowboy belts for the most original; door stops for the funniest girls and airplanes for the boys.

The Rev. and Mrs. Ted Lambert, ministers to Haiti, were honored guests at the Calvary Baptist church Tuesday. The Lamberts will receive their full support from the local church, and will

Success Makes Him Ambitious

MICHIGAN IN WASHINGTON

By Esther Van Wagoner Tufty

Clare E. Hoffman sets an example in consistency. Not many days ago he was the one man to vote against the Karate bill to raise travel pay of federal employees from \$6 to \$9 a day. He was then in the practice economy as well as preach it. He added that employees keep the travel allowance (which he admits is too low) when they took the job.

So does a congressman know what his voters are doing? Chairman of the House Administration Committee which approved the bill, says the Speaker in Sam Rayburn and Minority Leader Joseph Martin were both consulted. Miss Norton said the Hoffman was on the floor, browsing through a newspaper, when the bill was read.

Now that his quest is over, Hoffman takes the \$3000 and the extras? To Hoffman's claim that he was unaware that the bill had been passed? Committee on the House Administration Committee which approved the bill, says the Speaker in Sam Rayburn and Minority Leader Joseph Martin were both consulted. Miss Norton said the Hoffman was on the floor, browsing through a newspaper, when the bill was read.

Michigan farmers... well, the first to write... can secure the agricultural yearbooks from their county agents in Detroit. "Better Plants and Animals," "Farmers in a Changing World," "The Michigan Farmer," and "The Michigan Farmer's Handbook." To build a \$500,000 canal across the Upper Peninsula is called "fantastic and unnecessary" by the Michigan Public Expenditure Survey. Its general interest is economy in government.

The legislature wound up its 1949 general session last weekend at Lansing. The tug-of-war between Governor C. Mennen Williams, advocate of a corporation tax to raise \$50 to \$60 millions, and the Republican-dominated legislature ended in a draw. Williams didn't raise his tax on corporation profits, and the legislature avoided the distasteful issue of imposing a new levy. Even a suggested boost in the state gasoline tax was shelved.

How much the deficit will be after the legislature's efforts to economize have been carefully appraised, was yet to be estimated at time of adjournment. The state sales tax is already producing less each month, as a decline in prices brings a decline in tax revenue. The fact still remains that 10 per cent of all the money the state collects—even though it is less than heretofore—must be returned to local governments under constitutional mandates and legislative earmarking.

And so we find ourselves on May 20 right at the point where Michigan is still in the red. The predicted deficit is on the way. Something still must be done. What is to be done? The Michigan Public Expenditure Survey, in a current bulletin, sizes up the problem. It says: "The Michigan Public Expenditure Survey, in a current bulletin, sizes up the problem. It says: 'Our patchwork tax structure is badly out of balance. It is not only inequitable, but it does not, even recommend such a revision as present—on the ground that time is too short if we are to avoid a financial crisis.'"

Rep. George Sadowski, Detroit Democrat, has signed both petitions. Charles Potter, Paul Shafer, and John Bennett, all Republicans. Several Michigan women plan to attend the biennial convention of the American Association of University Women in Seattle June 19-23, according to the organization's Washington office. The Michigan president is Mrs. A. E. Rhoads of Marshall.

leave for their mission field today. The picnic was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hart.

The home service office for the American Red Cross has taken the lead in the photographic "Panning" is a trick; it pays off some practice; but it pays off. For "panning" is a means of getting good action pictures without using cameras with high shutter speeds. While it isn't suited to many types of scenes and it results in a blurred background, it can be used where action is continuous and follows a prescribed course.

Take a look at that number 47 on the ruler in today's picture. Then stop for a minute and estimate what shutter speed you think you would need to "stop" a bicyclist in this way as it whizzes around the track.

You say 1/1,000—1/1000? For today's picture was made with a shutter speed of 1/1,000. And, as you probably know, the

average box camera shutter speed is approximately 1/35. But don't fret badly if you guessed wrong. For today's picture was made by "panning" and without panning you probably would have needed a shutter speed of 1/1,000 to stop the car.

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Michigan Mirror

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By Gene Allen

ever too early to start overhauling a program which admittedly is bad and sadly in need of basic revision?

This question of solving the service problem of state and local finances is not new. Far from it. Within the past five years, many different plans have been suggested to give local units, as well as the state, a fair deal in the matter of revenues. Among 1949 proposals are the following: "Set up a system under which certain percentage of the taxpayer's income is designated for taxes—all taxes. That percentage would be split among the various governmental units."

"Substitute a straight 1.5 per cent income tax for the sales tax, cut out all diversion, and let local governments finance their own needs through excise taxes."

"Repeat the 3 per cent sales and use taxes, and substitute a 1 per cent use tax for state purposes only—leaving local units to finance their own taxes for their own expenses."

"Repeat the state sales tax; do away with state participation in local welfare costs, and state aid to schools except as provided in the state constitution. Allow counties to levy a maximum 3 per cent sales tax for local distribution."

Someone once said, "You can't have your cake and eat it, too." Michigan taxpayers paid a total of \$2.8 billion in taxes for the 1947-48 fiscal year (ending July 1). Of this amount \$142.2 million was collected by the state; \$247.2 million by local governments, and the remainder by the federal government.

Less taxation can come only through a reduction in public services. More public services can lead only to more taxes.

Why are we going to do about it? The proposed study of the entire tax problem appears to have timely merit.

There was nothing about Mr. Wallberg's part in the panel which was surprising. His knowledge he was a minister of the Gospel if he had not been a minister of the Gospel is not critical in that sense, but perhaps I expect too much from one who ministers to spiritual needs.

Perhaps the American people do not fully realize the feelings of people who are undergoing the process of a post-war economic and political rehabilitation, which takes on a violence not for the sake of a post-war revival, but I do believe the American people generally understand the high cost of a post-war revival. Principles and powers of evil, combined to enslave the world. The solution may in part be incorrect.

The evident feeling of the whole panel was expressed by the words of the Rev. Dr. Wallberg. We do not know the answers yet, but are making progress. The answer is in making progress. If the one to whom I give the privilege of bringing God's word to the world, I challenge the statement with, "We do have the answers and

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Thomas Bill Would Revise Minimum Standards for Agricultural Workers

(Special Story From Our Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Migrant children, like the poor, are always with us. Their number has been reduced by the mechanizing of many farms, nearly a million children today move across the country from one crop to another. Migrant children are actually worse off today than ever. High wages have gone. Housing is more scarce, less adequate. Medical care programs are no more. Those who are not working are not working only during the year. Michigan alone will have 14,000 migrants in 1949.

This summer, unless the Thomas Bill to revise the Fair Labor Standards Act is passed by the Senate and the parallel Lesinski Bill passes the House, the children will be worse off than ever. They'll be working long hours, day after day, at monotonous, back-breaking jobs.

What are the migrants doing today? Right now they're on their way up from the strawberry patches of Florida to tend and harvest the fruit and vegetable crops of the Atlantic coast, and from south of Florida to tend and harvest the fruit and sugar beets of Michigan and the mountain states, and from south of Michigan to tend and harvest the fruit and sugar beets of Oregon.

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Will Fill the Gap Migrant children are specifically provided for in the Fair Labor Standards Act of the District of Columbia. In Michigan (one of the states with no minimum standards for health, education and welfare groups, both public and private, are concerned with the welfare of these children. The Fair Labor Standards Act set a 16-year minimum for agricultural workers. But it applies only to those children who are required by state law to be in school. And state laws vary.

And on the national front, Michigan's Congressman John Lesinski is hopeful of the passage of the revisions to the Fair Labor Standards Act this session. With just under a million children involved, migrants are a matter of legitimate concern.

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People's Column

To the Editor: After attending the N.Y. panel discussion at the Community House, one can only help to feel that the general vagueness and perhaps even a little perplexity due to a common pattern which makes the discussion apparently follow.

Not wishing to be severely critical, I am sure that there is something definite, something tangible, to which one could refer in the hope of clearing the edge of strength and security. The many questions crowding my mind are: How is it possible that we could not find solution in a public direct question and answer period of the time factor?

First giving my own personal opinion of the discussion, young Tim Reed contributed information, in the few sentences he gave with the combined panel, with the best description of Mr. Eldridge.

We all know the need for such a program. It is not only a need, but what is to be done to strengthen and keep workable under all conditions such an organization? One of the most important obstacles is the mistrust and the desire for individualism, evidenced by member nations. This brings us to the question of a post-war world, and the general pattern of so-called realism, putting ideals into the background.

This brings us to the ideals of Democracy and Christianity which are synonymous. I have attended three UN panel discussions with members of the clergy being on the panel, and each time I have expected to see the word "God" used to expand His Way, as taught by Christ, putting the "realism" of Christianity far above so-called realism.

There was nothing about Mr. Wallberg's part in the panel which was surprising. His knowledge he was a minister of the Gospel if he had not been a minister of the Gospel is not critical in that sense, but perhaps I expect too much from one who ministers to spiritual needs.

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THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

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Memorial Day

God has not meant us for this world alone. This changeful world of joy and grief and pain. Of love and zest of living. Once again After death calls us to that vast unknown We shall go on with living. We shall be Part of the glorious angel host of heaven. All pain forgotten and all wrong forgiven. On the great threshold of eternity.

Gifts of remembrance here today we bring. Flowers to lay against the fresh green sod. While in the fragrant loveliness of spring These, our beloved ones, he asleep in God. We have now claimed them for his very own. He has not meant us for this world alone.

— BEATRICE McDONALD

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