

A Free, Responsible and Aggressive Press is Democracy's First Line of Defense

Local Traffic Safety

Local traffic accidents, for the fourth consecutive month, have shown a decrease...

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley attributes this remarkable decrease to 1) greater care on the part of Birmingham motorists...

It points to this fact: Birmingham police are trying their best to make Birmingham the safest community in which to drive...

After a trial lasting 12 weeks, a jury in Federal court at San Francisco has found a lady, known during the war as "Tokyo Rose," guilty of treason.

There is little reason to doubt the correctness of the jury's verdict. Accordingly, there is no occasion for sympathy for the defendant...

While the attention of the United States has been directed almost exclusively to European affairs, there are signs that the people of the Pacific are not going to sleep in connection with the matter of national defense.

One straw in the wind is the action in New Zealand where the people voted three-to-one in a referendum to introduce universal military training.

If you happen to become bored with the processes of democracy, then just recall what Adolph Hitler and his Nazis were doing 10 years ago.



Signs are multiplying that the proposed bridge over the Straits of Mackinac will soon become a pressing issue.

Governor Frank M. Whitten continues to utilize the Attorney General and State Controller as agencies to put republican state elective officials on the defensive.

Banks of Michigan paid a record sum of \$2,500,078 in interest earnings on funds of the State Treasury, it is announced by State Treasurer D. Hale Braker.

With election of Wyley R. King, Fairport as chairman of the State Agricultural Commission, speculation has increased...

Safe Hunting For Others

The season for good hunting is on. Unless 1949 is an exception to previous years, newspapers will report numerous instances involving the wounding or killing of hunters by accident.

Nearly every community in the nation, including Birmingham, has at one time or another experienced the sense of futile grief that comes from a tragedy in the fields, which, in the absence of human error, could have been avoided.

We have seen several collections of safety rules, designed to warn hunters of danger. The eleven set out by the Conservation Department of the State of New York several years ago deserve wide circulation and study by all those in Birmingham who plan to take to the fields and woods in search of game:

- (1) Never carry loaded guns in automobiles or other vehicles. (2) When afield, hunting birds, keep abreast of your companion. (3) In loading, never point a gun in the direction of your companion. (4) In climbing over stone walls and fences, first break or unload your gun. (5) A bird quartering to the right in the vicinity of your hunting companion should never be fired on by a hunter on the extreme left and vice versa. (6) Never leave a loaded gun standing against a tree or lying on the ground where a dog may get at it. (7) Always keep your gun pointed away from your companion when you stop to talk. (8) In handing a gun to a person for inspection, be sure it is unloaded. (9) Never shoot in the direction of your companion because you consider yourself a good marksman. You will be taking a dangerous chance. (10) Carry a gun pointed down to the left. If you shoot left-handed, walk at the extreme right of the party. (11) At all times, be careful.

If we help Tito, the Reds may get what we want. If we don't help him, the Reds will probably get Tito.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions of material published as news value, and suggestions are invited. Contributions should be sent to the Editor, 150-152 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Mich. 45203.

Jurists in the suit brought by Attorney General Stephen J. Roth contesting appointment of former Gov. Kim Sigler as Special Master of the State of Michigan...

The contest ends of high school graduates to colleges and universities is shown by the all-time enrollment record at Michigan State College, East Lansing.

The Birmingham School of Religion had its first session in the First Baptist church Monday, opening the current session.

The Birmingham High Twelve dance next Monday evening. The dance net will be held at the Community House, 150-152 North Woodward Avenue.

Contracts have been awarded by the state administrative board for construction of the first 500-bed hospital in the State Mental Hospital.

Grass root sentiment on state issues are to be studied by a republican policy planning committee headed by Dr. Robert M. Ford of the University of Michigan.

We Heard It Said: Dr. Robert J. Mason, 564 Overhill. "By putting most of our eggs in one basket, we are assured of giving help to the needy and deserving unfortunate."

Happenings of Long Ago

50 Years Ago OCTOBER 20, 1909

I went to the trouble and expense of putting lifelines posts in front of my store. Now my regular customers use them all the time and my customers must leave their holdings far away than before. I'm through!"

The schoolhouse question will be gone over again Monday evening when a meeting is held at the school. The location and types of building will be discussed as well as ways and means of financing. Personally, we think nothing but a fine addition to our village than a school of which we could all be proud.

Mr. and Mrs. Pinder Worth have returned from a two week's stay in Rome, Italy. While here they took in the Imlay City fair. The journey was accomplished with driving, which in this particular season added many joys to their holiday.

A rare treat is in store for our people next week when the Passion Play of Oberammergau presented at the M. C. Church. It will be done just as it has been produced for hundreds of years in the village of Bavaria.

A. Whitcomb, V. Nixon, W. North, G. Mitchell and P. Purkett went fishing Tuesday. They got cold and wet and tired and hungry and did not get home until 11 o'clock when the gentlemen were all hard at work once more the sun came out and created a perfect fall day.

20 Years Ago OCTOBER 24, 1929 Tom, the pipefitter's son has a chain counter in Birmingham. The store market did not exactly suit a pig, but he did take several hundred dollars worth of land from his employer. At present he is in the Oakland county jail, awaiting trial.

With differences put aside, the Maple and Elm streets hard and fast, but very clean, gridiron clash Friday afternoon. Giving no ground to the forces of law, their reputation of too-rough tactics, the Bathers proceeded to march and down the grid for a 27-0 final score in their favor.

Miss Carrie Stoddard, police clerk, was shocked and surprised Monday when a man, who gave his name as Clever, called on her. He had no home and wanted a "good long job in jail." Justice Buck was called in and ordered the man to leave town within an hour. When he refused, he was given a 30-day term in the city's immediate housing program.

Students of the Birmingham public schools will have no classes Oct. 28 and 29, while faculty members attend an annual convention of the Michigan Educational Association. The meeting, to be held in Detroit, will present some of the foremost authorities in the nation's field of education. Michigan's representative will present a burlesque on "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Four persons escaped with only bruises when their car was struck by a truck on Monday night. The one car was formed up over an embankment and went 50 feet into the ditch and tipped over into the ditch and burst into flame.

5 Years Ago OCTOBER 26, 1944 Members of the Birmingham fire department Tuesday evening dedicated a large honor roll listing the names of men who have taken part in the program of the auxiliary firemen during the present war.

Miss Adeline Cooke of the Baldwin Public Library, yesterday elected first vice-president of the Michigan Library Association. She will be inducted into this new office at the annual state meeting in Grand Rapids later this month.

First place in the League of Women Voters contest for the best poster illustrating the duty and privilege of voting has been awarded to Doris Marks, 12th grade student and Baldwin high school. The contest drew 115 entries from among local students.

The Birmingham School of Religion had its first session in the First Baptist church Monday, opening the current session. A great deal of interest has already been shown in this school and officials say they anticipate additional enrollments next week.

The Birmingham High Twelve dance next Monday evening. The dance net will be held at the Community House, 150-152 North Woodward Avenue. The net will be served at 7 o'clock for the 105 members and their guests.

Wind of the Night By BEATRICE McDONALD Out in the depths of the nebulous night, Wending its lonely way, Alone with the stars in the deathless dark, Chanting a dismal lay, Goes the wind, The sobbing, moaning, restless wind.

"Any Way You Slice It"

BY HAL P. BURGE

"Hail to the Victors!" Have you noticed how the gallant Michigan march of triumph has taken on a strange and muffled sound. The victory march that has reverberated across the nation for the past decade in tribute to the mighty Michigan football teams that have brushed aside, out-classed and crushed opponents, is being played by the same old tune. The recordings that were used at the radio studios before, are still spinning, but somehow the music doesn't seem the same.

Maybe my ear for music has changed. Quite frequently appetites for one thing or another change with development and situation. For instance: it is hard for the old timers to convince the younger generation that such old favorites as, "In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree" and "The Old Gray Mare" were once popular numbers. Since the Wolverines "ain't" who they used to be either, Michigan's football supremacy is back in the shade of the old apple tree, too.

Are you among the many who have discontinued the playing of Canada to engage in the newer and more exciting game that has just been introduced to the public during the past few weeks? It is a takeoff of the popular quiz games of the day, and is entitled, "What's Wrong With Michigan?"

Michigan has been defeated on the gridiron on two successive Saturdays and that has not happened in the last 10 years. Why does it have to happen now? I can't answer that question for you. Perhaps we're not God's chosen people after all. We have to lose a football game now and then just like all other state universities and other educational institutions. It just doesn't seem right that it should happen to Michigan, but it has, and we might as well face it.

There may be a lot of contributing factors to Michigan's downfall, but it is hard to put your finger on them in regards to the personnel that is wearing the maize and blue uniforms this season. Until the Army game, the boys looked as much like champions as the ones that have gone on before.

We still have Chuck Ortmann who made everyone forget Bob Chappin in a hurry, and Leo Kocicki who last season slashed off tackle about as good as Pompey Elliott used to. Harry Allis was a budding All American in his sophomore year and I'm Wenzel and Oake Clark didn't get their hair bald ends. We have some veteran tackles and some new ones that looked like the best crop ever, until Army came to town. Fullbacks we have by the dozen, and all they are the same devastating little devils that spun their way to fame last year. We've thought we had plenty of center strength returning from last season, and Tony Moman was back from one of the great teams of several years ago. The guards were gone, but the Michigan coaching staff had stated that out of the dozen guards on the squad, at least six of them were performing outstandingly.

That brings us down to the quarterback. Poor old Ghindia. In the Stanford game it was discovered that he had the potentialities of a Friedman-Evashevski-Yerges combination. Then came the Army and Northwestern games. Ghindia is now back in the ranks of the home team. In his final year, he is missing up all the plays, what difference does it make which one the quarterback selects. If Ghindia had called for the execution of the Maypole dance in the Army game, it is a good bet that some of the boys would have tripped over a daisy and got the strands all tangled up.

Even old ageless Al Wistert seems to be running out of gas. He is exactly my age and believe me, he should be joining the rest of us old men soon. Why, the other day I pulled a leg muscle and I'm Wenzel and Oake Clark didn't get their hair bald ends. He was undoubtedly a much better man than most of us to be with, but he's still pretty old to be out there on the gridiron trying to shove a bunch of lumberjacks from Minnesota how to "cut down the old pine tree" with a cross-body block.

It is not fair to jump on a coach the season after he was named coach-of-the-year, but it probably won't be long before poor old Benny will hear a few unkind words cast in his direction. It is a known fact that a successful coach now-a-days has to be a cross between a Simon Legree and Albert Einstein. Benny has never been known to flip his lid easily and a bull whip isn't part of his equipment. If he were a genius, it probably would have been discovered many years ago and he would have been a head coach somewhere.

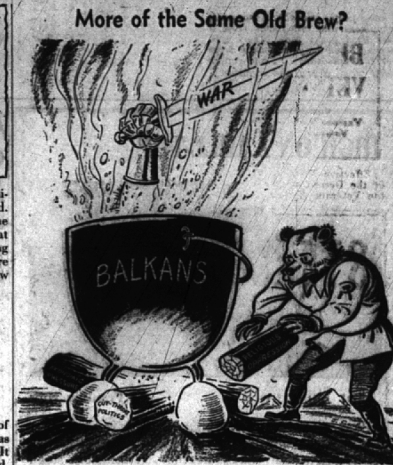
I have a clock at home that sort of reminds me of the Michigan football situation. Ten years ago it was new, and until recently it kept flawless time. The years rolled by and it stood on our dressing table, performing like the precision machine that it was. The kids knocked off onto the floor a couple of times and it got a bit noisy, but kept right on running for a year or two. A few weeks ago it started to make a funny noise. I tried putting on a few drops of oil, but it was no use. It kept getting noisier and noisier; a couple of nights ago I woke in the middle of the night and the clock was making a terrible screeching, grinding sound. I got up and pulled the electric plug to stop it.

I've looked it over several times and there is nothing visibly wrong with it. The white hands are still steady and the little wheels all seem to be in place, but it is worn out, I guess. There is no use blaming the clock. It gave me 10 years of good service. The manufacturer can't be blamed either. It wasn't guaranteed for a lifetime.

LEGAL NOTICES

Oliver H. Kirk, Attorney, 207 Walnut Bldg., Birmingham, Ala. No. 44,725. STATE OF MICHIGAN - The Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 3rd day of September, A. D. 1949.

Wind of the Night By BEATRICE McDONALD Out in the depths of the nebulous night, Wending its lonely way, Alone with the stars in the deathless dark, Chanting a dismal lay, Goes the wind, The sobbing, moaning, restless wind. It robs me of slumber and kindles my ire With its piteousness and its woeful dir. And tuneless chant, this wind of the night, This lonely wind of the night.



People's Column

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column, but assumes no responsibility for return of same. Letters must be limited to 500 words.

To the Editor: "Baldwin Elementary School." This very sound strategy after referring to the building as a high school for 43 years. However, the greater interest in the expansion program should not obscure the position of this future hand-me-down in the system.

A little peering in windows and eavesdropping showed that the building is a high school for 1,200 elementary pupils. This surprised me until I saw a review of nine recently completed schools and found the cost per pupil to be \$850 for elementary schools and \$1,940 for secondary schools.

Curiosity led me along a side path and I figured that Torrey will cost \$980 per pupil and the proposed high school \$2,700 per pupil. Apparently a second day school will be smaller in size hence cost more to build and maintain than elementary schools.

I wonder if I will see many more of these kind of schools. The reason for this is that the world oil shortage has substantially come to an end and has turned into a shortage of currency to buy oil. Since the United States is interested in oil exports directly and also indirectly, the latter, for instance, from our Arabian oil interests, it may now be better understood why the U. S. government has been rather reluctant to deduce E.C.A. dollars to European overseas oil developments.

Have You Met . . .

The family from Ann Arbor, Mr. and Mrs. Don R. Parker who are residing at 706 Grandfield, Mr. Parker is a professor at Wayne University.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Even fast sports action seldom requires a very fast lens. This prizewinner from the Graflex Photo Contest was made by Alex Lumban at f/8.

HOW FAST A LENS SHOULD I BUY?

The title of this column is a common question. A simple answer is hard to give since so much depends upon what the owner plans to do with his camera. So let's narrow the problem down to the average amateur who will be taking all kinds of pictures with his camera and wants to keep his investment reasonable. With today's fast films and the availability of good low-priced flash equipment there is little need for extremely fast lenses. Unless you do some highly-specialized type of photography, there is no sense investing money in a very fast lens which you will rarely use at full aperture. So for purposes of this column, let's assume you are buying a 35mm camera with a lens of f/5.6 or f/8. If you can afford a good f/4.5, buy it. If not, settle happily for an f/5.6. But whatever you buy, buy quality from a reputable manufacturer. Good slow lenses is always preferable to a inferior fast one.