

Around The Cracker Barrel

There is no other way, says our President, to meet government expenses except to raise taxes next year. This erudition was expounded to the Washington correspondents after our chief executive returned from a yacht trip down the Potomac, at the people's expense.

No other way, he says, except to further increase the burden on taxpayers, and to take our government one step further along the road to chaos. This would indeed be a black outlook for all of us if it was true. But the common sense of the average man, as differentiated from politicians, says something else. And that advice of the average man, that man who has a home to maintain and a budget of his own to meet, knows that when income diminishes, expenditures must likewise be cut.

This seems so utterly elemental to all of us that it seems silly and trite to have to point it out to those we elect. But the safe and studied words of the President, after that trip with cronies down the Potomac, clearly indicates that nothing is too basic or simple to propose to such a group.

In about 1933 we did something in Michigan which well might serve as a national pattern. Our State was spending more money than the people could afford. The State was gouging all thought necessary. The State was gouging all that they could from the citizens, and trying to get more. Three times the people said no to an income tax proposal. But the spenders at Lansing kept on—until they were stopped. The people rose up and said, in effect, we will give you a total of 15 mills on all property and that you'll get along.

The State has struggled through on 15 mills and whatever else they could raise, and strangely enough there is no other way. Of course, in theory, no government agency should raise more by taxes than is necessary, and should not tax so highly that a surplus appears. For when this happens you may be sure the estimate of expenses was well padded in the first place. But it is not my purpose to talk about Michigan.

Suppose the people of this country said the same thing to the Federal Government. Suppose they said: "You will get along on the money raised from a certain tax rate for all governmental functions except national defense." What do you suppose the government would do? Why, they'd just get along. We wouldn't have so many bureaus and agencies, with their inquiring snoppers, who do their best to thwart business and initiative. We'd have a shorter line up at the government will trough, and individually we wouldn't have to be supporting ten per cent of the country's workers on the government payroll.

Of course, dreadful things would happen if this was brought about. We might not know how many Pheasant's eggs were laid in any given Spring; we might not even know what percentage of neckties are bought by women. It would be pretty rough if there wasn't a soft sinecure for a friend who can always slam the eight ball in the corner pocket.

As most of the government's income is derived from the income tax, this would be the spot to tackle. It was the idea of the last President Roosevelt that the rich should be soaked. It was his idea to have high graduated scales, with higher surtaxes—his and that of a scared Congress.

Have you ever stopped to consider just how inequitous that principle is? First, the rich are not really soaked. They live from income from securities bought before an income tax existed; they don't live on principal. They really aren't taxed as to their static wealth. Only their current income is cut down. But the fellow who is really hurt is the man who is making a competence. He can't. The government takes most of it, and individual initiative is destroyed. When the initiative of the individual is frozen, you are heading for decadence, or worse.

After reasonable exemptions for the very low income group, it would appear that every man should pay the same rate on his income, be he large or small. Nothing is more dishonest than to tax ability, initiative and brains. Yet we blandly permit our government to do it.

There seems to be only one course left for us, if we are to survive with our way of life. That is to limit the amount of taxes, by limiting the tax rate, which our government may tax us. On the few billions this will raise, our government will have to get along.

Of course, national defense is a matter which will have to be left up to Congress. The people cannot be advised of its every need. But the national defense, with an honest government, can easily be defined. We may need billions for this defense, and all of us want to see it forthcoming. So, in addition to an amount for domestic government—which is fixed—we would need to give Congress authority to tax us for the additional cost of defense.

What else can the people do? Slowly, but surely, we are being ground into serfdom. We are placidly admitting a wasteful government to tax us into anarchy. The time to take action is when Congressmen and Senators are away from the enchanting sound of their own voices, when they listen to their constituents. If the people have a time, and the interest, to save themselves from a fate worse than high taxes, then it is their turn to be heard.

How we need a leader. How we need a Man. We need a man, with clarion voice, who will stand up and say (to paraphrase James Madison): "It seems indisputable that the mass of citizens should not be without voice in setting the taxes which they are to pay."

Ross S. Campbell, Proprietor.

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BIRMINGHAM'S STORE FOR CASUAL APPAREL

Beck Asks State Doctors to Fight Socialization

Dr. O. O. Beck, local physician, has issued a call to the 6,000 Michigan doctors to join the fight against socialized medicine.

Speaking before the meeting of the executive committee of the Michigan State Medical Society in Lansing last week, Dr. Beck said, "We have been opposing socialized medicine. Now we must broaden our efforts in the interests of the entire American way of life. If we are to keep America great, we must uphold the principles of private initiative and enterprise and oppose attempts by social planners to impose a welfare state on our citizens."

Dr. Beck spoke of the resignation of Dr. Edwin G. Nourse as chairman of President Truman's board of economic advisers. He described the act as a warning to the nation.

Dr. Nourse is of the opinion that the government's big-time spending spree will eventually ruin the nation," he said. "It is because of this same fear that the members of Michigan's medical profession have decided to take active steps to protect their country against economic devastation and the resulting welfare state."

Little Symphony Concert Tickets On Sale Tomorrow

Ticket sales will begin tomorrow, for the Dec. 2 concert by the Little Symphony of Detroit.

The concert will be given in the Royal Oak high school auditorium, and is sponsored by the Birmingham Musicales.

"Any Musicales member can supply information on who is selling tickets," Mrs. Gardner said.

Gives Talk Before Washington Group

Richard K. Seales, 341 Westwood, director of technical service, Ethyl Corporation Research Laboratories, addressed the 50th annual convention of the National Retail Farm Association at Washington, D. C. on October 20.

Seales' subject, "Lubricating the March of Progress," traced the petroleum industry's contributions toward the improvement of farm equipment and farming methods.

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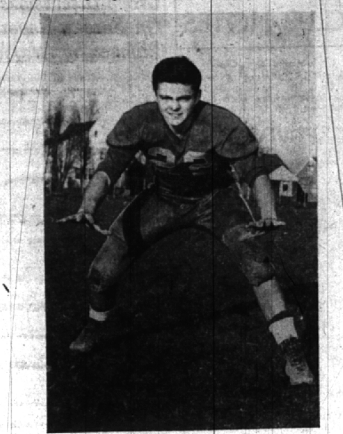


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Campbell's Village Store

Wrist Injury Sidelines Maple Captain



Trying to push open a school window, Maple Captain Bob Hardy cut two tendons and an artery in his wrist. The injury will keep Hardy on the sidelines for the rest of the season.

By Gordon Crawford

The battle cry of the Birmingham football team after Wednesday, Oct. 19, was, "Win this for Bob!" And this week it will be "Bury the Big Red for Bob!"

Bob Hardy, Maple captain and ace lineman, was seriously injured last week and is lost to the team for the season.

Bob was trying to open a window in the high school library and pushed his arm through a pane, severing two tendons and an artery in his wrist.

Key Maple Player
The scrappy little guard, best in the Eastern Michigan League, has never played in a Thanksgiving game and now, never will. He was a first-stringer in both his sophomore and junior years but was injured both years before the Royal Oak game.

Not only will the Maples miss their captain as a great guard but as their leader as well. Bob was the key to both the Maples' offense and defense. Now he has to take his place along the sidelines with other injured Maple gridders.

Hardy still puts life in the team by coming to their practices, helping the coaches and inspiring the players during the game from his place on the sidelines.

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

B'ham Kiwanians to Promote 'Nat'l Kid's Day' Here

Birmingham today joined the parade of cities across the nation that will observe National Kids' Day, Saturday, Nov. 19.

Sponsored locally by the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham, the observance is designed primarily to focus public attention on underprivileged boys and girls, and to help provide educational, medical and recreational facilities for the less fortunate youth of the community.

More than 3,000 Kiwanis clubs in the United States and Canada are scheduled to set the program in motion on Nov. 19. Plans for local observance are fast nearing completion.

Tom Ward, president of the club, stated, "They are being formulated to carry out as far as possible the real purpose of National Kids' Day which is to call attention to all children whose lives are subnormal because of handicaps—both physical and financial."

To Stimulate Awareness
The Kiwanis Club is cooperating with the National Kid's Day Foundation, a non-profit corporation which has been organized to stimulate a general awareness of youth problems, Ward said.

Unlike many special days on the calendar, National Kid's Day is not a commercial device, it was pointed out, and the only ones who will profit from it are underprivileged children. Funds raised through activities in connection with National Kid's Day in Birmingham will be sent to benefit underprivileged children in this community.

Ward said that Kiwanis International has long been noted for its work among underprivileged youth and that its youth program is one of the principal activities of the international organization.

New Is the Time
"Kiwanis believes that the time is now to do something for all our underprivileged children and to focus attention on the problems of all youth. We want to do all we can to make both youth and adults aware of our responsibilities to children everywhere and especially to those children who are less fortunate than the average."

"Through the National Kid's Day Foundation the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham is able to join with literally millions of Americans in sponsoring the observance of a day set aside especially for youth."

Organize Senior Unit of Boy Scouts

The Metropolitan Club is sponsoring a branch of the Boy Scouts which is new in Birmingham and is known as the Senior Unit. This group is for boys from 14 years up, is under the advisement of George Scott, Eugene Heers and Harry Stark as assistant advisors.

The Unit meets Tuesday evening in the American Legion home at 7:30 o'clock and all young men interested in joining are invited to attend.

Lace-Trimmed Rayon Crepe GOWN by Radelle \$5.95

This is truly a lovely gown, with smooth lines, good tailoring and perfect fit. Made by Radelle of rayon crepe, it is richly trimmed with lace. Pink, white and blue. Sizes 32 to 40.

D.J. Healy SHOPS
WABEEK BLDG., BIRMINGHAM
Open Friday Night Until 9 o'Clock

YMCA Volleyball

Wayne Mortimer, chairman of the Birmingham YMCA volleyball group, announced that weekly play would take place at the Quanton school on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 until 9:30 p.m. All men interested in playing, or learning to play volleyball, are invited to participate. Teams will be formed to meet groups from Detroit and Pontiac from time to time. Everyone attending should bring their own gym clothing, shoes and towel.

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