

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO September 1, 1899

While clearing away the debris of an old building Monday, Charles Schless found six old Spanish coins, said to be about \$1 value, American money. About the size of an American silver dollar, three of the coins bore the date 1819, which had been entirely obliterated from the obverse. No one in town has any idea how the coins came to be there.

Boys and girls going to school are invited to drop in to see Messrs. Whelton and Lucher and have their pencils sharpened on our new machine. We think it's the greatest invention on earth.

For Sale—An almost new 5-burner oil stove and oven in first class condition. Must be sold within two weeks because the owner is going to move to the city and use gas. Mr. John Hatley at the Chicken Hatchery.

The village treasury will no doubt be enriched by some \$5 fines for violation of the sidewalk cleanliness law. Footpaths are to be cleaned and are threatening to "do something" if the law doesn't.

The dancing party at Library Hall last Friday night was one of the most enjoyable of the season. LeBaron Conn of Pontiac furnished the music, which was of a very satisfactory order. The young men certainly know how to play the violin.

20 YEARS AGO September 5, 1929 Miss Sally O'Brien, 25, and Frank Lockhart, 45, today owe their lives to a rescue squad. Miss O'Brien was unconscious when taken from the lake near the Bloomfield Open Hunt club Sunday after suffering a heart attack. Lockhart was overcome by gas from a leaking line in his home.

The local police car is again proceeding along the paths of lawlessness when taken from the lake near the Bloomfield Open Hunt club Sunday after suffering a heart attack. Lockhart was overcome by gas from a leaking line in his home.

Coch Johnson looks forward to a good griddle season with 36 players reporting for training at the lake near the Bloomfield Open Hunt club Sunday after suffering a heart attack. Lockhart was overcome by gas from a leaking line in his home.

With the police of five nearby communities on his trail, a youth-enthusiast motorcycle rider was finally arrested at Birmingham over his charges in jail. He is William Kramer, 16, of Detroit, who was speeding and stunting at 70 mph. Bucking and stunting at 70 mph. Bucking and stunting at 70 mph.

About 200 golfers lost their clubs in the fire which Tuesday afternoon destroyed the club house and clubhouse at the Birmingham Golf Club. The cause of the fire is unknown. An official estimate sets the damage in excess of \$5,000.

5 YEARS AGO September 7, 1944 Henry Timm, a member of the Birmingham Police department for the past 15 years has been promoted from patrolman. The announcement was made today by the department chief, John Hackett. Sgt. Timm has been a platoon clerk at headquarters for some time.

\$50,000 has gone up in smoke. City Treasurer Russell T. Berger requested the city commission to burn unsold sewer bonds of this amount at their last meeting. They were part of the \$140,000 sewer project bonds of 1938, when only \$1,000 worth were sold to finance the project.

The Wing Lake school will not open until Sept. 18. The postponement was made on recommendation of the county health authorities. Children entering school for the first time should report for enrollment Sept. 11.

Police report no clues have been discovered as yet in the Kroger store robbery of last Friday in which the robber escaped with \$1,500 in cash and nearly the same amount in jewelry and watches. Several residents reported that they were awakened early Tuesday morning when homes were shaken by the tremors.

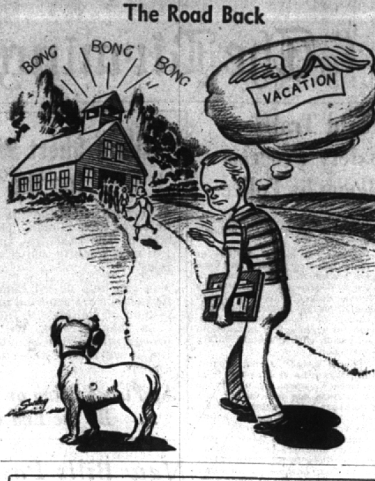
Although no damage resulted, a number of automobiles were performed during the storm Tuesday morning as the area was hit by a dark rain. Several residents reported that they were awakened early Tuesday morning when homes were shaken by the tremors.

A new type of demountable auto battery that can be taken apart, repaired, and reassembled with an ordinary pair of pliers in 15 minutes is being manufactured.

God gives the golden days to compensate for the ordinary bitterness of days to come. Wonder of summer turning into autumn. Blue of the gentles skies to captivate the heart! We needn't miss some wisps of gold from every lovely day when soft, winds blow. To store against the days when winds blow cold; To cherish the dark comes early and the light late. And the earth lies white beneath the drifting snow.

Autumn Thoughts

By BEATRICE McDONALD



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column. All must be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be limited to 100 words.

To The Editor: There are a number of people in Birmingham who take a rather dim view of the next to last paragraph of Miss Morgan's article in a recent edition of The Eccentric on the subject of "The Monster of Quanton Lake."

Certainly her comments regarding the algae on the lake and the unpleasant odor emanating therefrom were not very constructive from the standpoint of Quanton Lake residents. Having lived on Quanton Lake for five years, I have yet to observe the so-called "monster" odor.

Undoubtedly Miss Morgan felt that in the interests of beautifying the City of Birmingham something should be done about the lake and possibly her articles should be urged such action.

As you well know Quanton Lake is one of the greatest recreational spots in Birmingham during the winter months, when families flock to the lake to enjoy the pleasures of skating. Yet it presents a real eyecore to most people during the summer months and is the type of thing which, having been deeded to the city, should receive the attention of the city management to the end of beautifying the lake.

Undoubtedly you are familiar with the fact that several property owners decided their property between the lake and home-diamond to the city on the condition that the lake would be cleaned up and made an attractive spot the year round.

It could well be that a campaign on the part of The Birmingham Eccentric (which to my mind is one of the finest weekly papers I have had occasion to read) would go a long way towards influencing the city fathers to a beautification project for the lake. Certainly a beautiful town like Birmingham should not be subjected to such an unsightly spot in the center of its fine residential sections.

Sincerely yours, L. H. POMEROY 660 Lakeview Drive

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

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

Cleopas of fast action requires a high-speed shutter. Made by Ted Rozumalski, with a Graflex in 1/800 second at f/5.6. Note sharp details.

IDEAS FOR BETTER ACTION PHOTOGRAPHS I

Sometimes being the season of sports and activity, each year brings many requests for data on taking better action pictures. Because so many pictures come under this heading, it might be helpful if we devote the next few columns to a good look at the techniques that go into prize-winning action photos.

So many action pictures require fast planning and shooting. There is no time to compose carefully, fumble with diaphragm and shutter speeds or fuss with accessories. So first of all, you should know your equipment well. You must be able to compute exposure quickly, focus almost automatically and handle the mechanics of picture-making instinctively that you can devote your full attention to composing the picture and picking the exact instant to click the shutter. This ability comes only through practice and familiarity with what your camera can and cannot do.

If your camera is equipped with a high-speed flash plane shutter, stopping fast action on film poses few problems. You just set your shutter at 1/600 or 1/1000 second and shoot. But many cameras have a limit of 1/200 sec. or slower. Then you have to resort to various tricks to freeze fast moving objects.

Before we discuss these methods, let's here mention that the camera is not so fussy that details are obscured completely. Just how much blur can be allowed depends upon how much you plan to enlarge the negative as well as the purpose of the picture. If you just want a pictorial shot of a waterfall, a slow shutter speed will give the best effect of falling water. If you are out to portray the strain on a runner's face as he crosses the finish line, obviously his features should be fairly sharp even though his arms and legs may blur some.

Next week we will take up specific methods of stopping action with any camera.

Startling, Here is a statement that should shock the people of the United States: "We could have shortened the war by at least six months with a saving of \$50 billion, more or less, and hundreds of thousands of American casualties."

Who is it that makes such a startling declaration? None other than General George C. Marshall, who, as Chief of Staff, planned the prosecution of the war for the United States. How does he think the United States could have shortened the war with a saving of money and lives?

In the fall and spring of 1939 the leaders of the nation, acutely aware of what was going on in the world, begged Congress for prompt action to prepare the United States for its own defense. If these requirements had been met, "even to a modest degree," the General feels that the nation would have been spared much suffering and financial losses.

Today, according to Gen. Marshall, the nation faces a situation "almost exactly like 1940-41." He admits he is "very fearful of delays" and questions the advantage of small cuts in connection with the program to assist the western nations of Europe to rearm.

If there is anybody who doubts the accuracy of what Gen. Marshall says about the similarity of the present threat to peace and that which existed in 1939, let him hunt up a newspaper of the era when Hitler had Europe by the ears. Read it carefully and in place of Germany's military power and aggressive actions, consider the record of Soviet Russia in Eastern Europe.

Nearly everybody has heard about the pupil who put a tack in the teacher's chair and what happened to the teacher. Not many of us have heard the other side of the story—what happened to the school.

In a neighboring state, the inevitable tack in the chair caused the instructor to cause a veterans' training class. The members are aroused and some of them assert that the "hook-out" is keeping "bread out of babies' mouths."

The class may have laughed heartily when the teacher sat on the tack, but now appears that the teacher is doing the laughing.

A fact of some significance in connection with the possibility of a real depression, is the \$175,000,000,000 which the American people hold in savings and bank deposits. The figures come from Earl R. Muir of the American Bankers Association, who gave them to a Senate Committee with the statement that he sees no danger of an economic collapse.

You can do your part in making Birmingham the city you want it to be, but you will never accomplish it by just talking.

\$1.1 Billion Rivers, Harbors Measure Includes Money for SOC Flood Control

WASHINGTON—Passage of the \$1,100,000,000 Omnibus Rivers and Harbors and Flood Control Bill by the House Wednesday last week was something more than a step toward granting federal appropriations for the few favored sections of the country, according to Congressman George A. Dondero.

It was a step, he said, toward reinforcing the economic and military strength of this country at a time in history when that strength is the sole remaining hope of the world for renewed peace and prosperity of all nations.

This was the basis of the fight that the Royal Oak Congressman, as former Republican chairman of the House Public Works Committee, made for passage of the bill. Dondero is considered the leading standing expert among House Republicans on rivers and harbors improvements and flood control construction.

Flood Control Project It was he who initiated and carried through the legislative end of the Red Run-Clinton River flood control project in southern Ohio and Michigan. This project will save millions of dollars in flood losses eventually and will protect the health of residents of these areas.

"The appropriations contained in this bill," Dondero said, "may be the largest that have ever been authorized. It is a total of \$1,100,000,000 in the eventuality that the Senate, for the direct benefit of the American people and not for the benefit of the monopolists who seem rarely even to realize that the things they receive are paid for with American money."

"Furthermore, more than 70 per cent of the expenditures authorized are for construction of vitally necessary projects that are already under way. Only 30 per cent of the money for new projects is for the most pressing need. It cannot be said that this bill

A Trial Becomes a Farce

The trial of 11 members of the national board of the Communist party in this country has lasted for 29 weeks and is not yet concluded. It is difficult to imagine any case that requires this long a trial.

The tactics of the defendants and their attorneys have been almost without precedent in American courts. The judge has been practically ignored by attorneys, there have been loud comments before the jury by the defendants and their counsel and frequent protests and denunciations of the jurist.

Judge Harold R. Medina has exhibited rare patience under great provocation. The same can be said, we presume, for the jurors. All of which lends support to the belief that the defendants have been given more than an opportunity to present their defense.

It is about time to end such a farce. We note that Judge Medina is becoming tired of the obstructionist tactics of attorneys defending the accused. We suspect that when the trial is over he will send some of them to jail for contempt of court.

Nevertheless, it is absurd to permit the trial to run for more than seven months and to clutter up the record with all the argumentative junk that has been presented as evidence by the accused and their attorneys.

100 Years From Now

Predictions that the population of the globe may possibly outrun production of food and as a result many people will starve, have no bearing upon the United States if the conclusions of Dr. Harold C. Moulton, well-known economist, are correct.

Dr. Moulton heads a privately endowed research institution. He maintains that the United States has the ability to support double its population, one hundred years from now, on a plane of living eight times as high as that of the present.

Economic conditions his prediction upon "wise" policies in relation to our resources. What these wise policies may be, when the generation of 2049 looks backward, no one can tell.

Only then can anyone know whether we, of today, are following wise or foolish policies.

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Take time to investigate before you invest... YOUR GOAL GUARANTEE PRIVILEGE IS GOOD UNTIL JULY 25, 1957

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The worker under the U. S. profit and loss system works a national average of 40 hours a week, earning \$10; 19 hours to earn that sum under the British Socialist System, and 21 hours to earn it under Russian Communism.

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Full information for the present Veterans Administration office

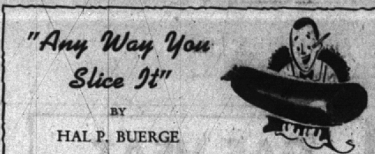
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It's been a mighty hot Summer and people around town have been complaining about it. Quite frequently in fact, they voice their dissatisfaction with the weather to the newspaper. I think it is common belief that we either own, control, or at least have a nodding acquaintance with the weather man.

So, as I go up and down the street listening to folks gripe about the heat and the humidity I make a sincere effort to relieve their suffering. I accept their orders for weather. I tell them that I will put their name on my list for future delivery. It sometimes satisfies them for the time being.

Of course, I realize that their names may be on the lists of every other weather dealer in this area, but it affords the illusion that business is running away.

I always tell my weather customers that when their cool weather arrives they take delivery just the way it comes from the factory. Sometimes they send it through with virtually no added accessories and again they load it down with gadgets like thunder, lightning, wind, rain, hail, etc.

I took an awful lot of orders for cool weather in June and July and some more in the early part of August. In case any of my customers are getting impatient I would like to take this opportunity to make a progress report.

Production is moving at a rapid pace now and I am filling orders to beat the band. In fact, the way operations are progressing right now it is more than likely that by the middle of January, 1950 every one on my list will be satisfied.

One more assurance I should like to make is that I am showing no favoritism. Everyone, even our finest friends must wait their turn. If you are not satisfied with this method of operation I would like to assert my arrogant independence in the matter and suggest that you take your business elsewhere. However, if you do go elsewhere you may be sorry you did, because my cool weather is the finest on the market today. Ask the man who owns one!

It may also be timely to suggest that I am now taking hot weather orders for delivery early next Summer. A few of these models will be made up in advance and will be priced exactly like the models of February. If you are prepared to pay the price it is likely that I can sneak one of these early models through for you.

Michigan Mirror

By Gene Alleman

Industry is not moving to Michigan. Many of the manufacturing plants under 10,000 population are for sale. Broken bottles and cans. No shade. These are just a few of the things that are going on in Michigan.

As far as all can see, outside of the fence and beyond the fence, there is NOTHING at St. James to enjoy.

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This state department, created during Governor Kim Sigler's administration, is interested in local communities for industrial surveys. A total of 175 communities are being surveyed.

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