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Better Public Relations Begets Better Understanding

After disposing of the matters likted on their agenda last weeks Birmingham city commissioners went into a rather lengthy discussion of their relations with the public concerning matters of general interest

Commissioner Garland D. Tait brought up the subject with the observation that the commission apparently isn't doing the best it could in this regard.

the best it could in this regard.

"In the past couple of months, I've heard lots of talk and criticism about what the commission has done and hasn't done," Talt said by way of introducing the matter.

the matter.

Tait, together with the other commissioners, then explored the situation.

Without exception, they all agreed that they believed the commission should find some way to let the citizens know it was trying its best to govern city affairs in a manner most beneficial to the common good.

The commissioners may not realize it, but their last week's discussion of public relations was we feel, excellent public relations in fiself.

renations in itself.

We are encouraged to see the commissioners take this attitude. People, when they understand the facts, more easily accept a decision than if those facts were withheld or were not properly publicized. We repeat: we are encouraged to see

We repeat: we are encouraged to see the, Birmingham commissioners seeking a better "public relations" program for our community. It should not be neces-sary to point out that in many other cities municipal affairs are run under wraps that can only be blasted away by ex-hausting effort.

In considering this problem of municipal public relations, we would like only to suggest to the commissioners that they study WHAT THEY DID when they discussed the matter, and not WHAT THEY SAID.

The answer could be there.

True Humility Could Help Our President

Normally, the voice of the President of the United States carries weight in Congress, especially when a President's own political party dominates a given Congress.

Congress.

But the recent overwhelming over-riding of his veto on the anti-Communist Bill by Congress proves that a President's voice, to command sober attention, must have more than mere sound in it, it must be weighted with wisdom, intelligence, and it must come from a man in whom Congress and the public has great confidence.

No doubt Congress, in over-rider and the confidence.

No doubt Congress, in overgriding Tru-man's vigorous veto, must wave thought that the veto message was written by the President's stooges and/or aides, and that among them were people prone to play the international game of ap-

No doubt, too, Congress must have thought that the President, himself— often proved inept and uninformed in the past on important subjects—was not fully informed on the reasons why Con-gress passed this challenging piece of legislation.

As the days run their war-like hours, it is obvious that Mr. Truman becomes more puzzled and bewildered. And why shouldn't he?

shouldn't he?
Hav-office is grappling with tremendous world-shaking problems, enough to torture the heads and hearts of a whole corps of really able heads of whole solve such problems is like asking for the owner of a small haberdashery to step in and make a success of Wanamaker's or Marshall Field's huge mercantile empires.

If only our President would turn-back to his pre-1948 election attitude of hon-est humility . who knows but what the might exemplify the Biblical adage that 'he who humbleth himself shall be exatted'!

What Is the Matter?

What is the matter with this country? Hardly any two persons in the nation ould agree on the answer to this ques-

tion.

This is not surprising because the explanation of present problems does not lie in any particular indictment. There

are many causes.

In fact there is probably no one who knows the complete answer. Efforts to understand our economic machinery are hindered by various factors, including

self-interest.

About the best thing that the average individual can do, if questions like this present themselves in his mind, is to forget about the nation for the moment and ask, "What's the matter with me?"

If the inquiry is pursued relentlessly and with diligence, there is bound to be good results.

The American Way

One of the glittering generalities that bobs.up in almost every public effort of orators is the "American way." If a stranger in our midst wanted to know what "the American way" meant, he would have a hard time figuring it out

he would have a hard time figuring it out.

The answer to the search would de-pend upon whether he read Democratic or Republican oratory.

In the interest of clearer thinking, might not our speakers be more exact in their lawrage?

might not our speakers be more exact in their language?
Could they say just what they think "the American way" means?
If one is interested in studying the topic and delves into the records of the formation of the United States of America, he will discover that there was considerable difference of opinion and that the "wise old patriots" of our early life expressed robust opinions about those who disagreed with them.
This seems to be about the nearest that one can approach to a definition of "the American way." It continues to abide with us.

From Our Point of View

In case of war, invasion, or insurrection, what is wrong with throwing known Communists and subservives into a concentration camp? Congress, in passing a law to do just that, finally catches up with the convictions of the vast majority of American people. Why, in Russia, in time of "pace", anyhody who disagrees with the Kremlin is sent to Siberia. Why should the United States coddle those who are not loyal?

Michigan State College has just purchased a "lie detector" to use in its course on police administration. We suggest that such a device be purchased and used in both halls of Congress, and in every State Legislature. Why? Don't be silly!

Poor Joe Louis! It was a great personal and public tragedy that Joe fought Ezzard Charles in order to regain his pugilistic title. Watching that fight over pugilistic title. Watching that ingit over television, one could not help feeling sorry for a chap who, during his fighting career, did so much for clean sportsman-ship and clean living. Too bad Joe need-current money. How much better if he could have been remembered as he was in voluntary retirement!

A terrible situation that may affect the lives of millions and millions of yet unborn babies appears to confront us. It may be more devastating than atomic warfare. A laundry company plans to perfect and market a machine for changing a baby's diapers! There ought to be a law against such barbarism, don't you think?

Soap rationing, which began in Eng-land in 1942, has just been ended. Now all that is needed by the British is to wash its hands of the Socialism that is devouring its freedom.

So They Say . . .

William Green, president, A. F. of L.:
"Stop shipping goods to Russia from
America because it will use them for the
purpose of preparing for war."

Vincent C. Ross, industry official:
"There is altogether too much talk of security' and not enough of opportunity."

Louis Johnson, former Secretary of De-

fense:
"In the early phase of battle, the advantage is always with the aggressor."



Happenings of Long Ago

Bite Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccent The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 years ago OCTOBER 5, 190

OCTOBER 5, 1900
Farmer Wakeman Bradley had
a narrow escape from death Saturday night when he drove his
team in front of one of the electric cars just north of Royal Oak.
Mr. Bradley is thought to have
fallen asleep and not noticed the
car. One horse was killed.

A sneak thief stole 50 cents nd a box of soap from the Frank chlaack home Tuesday, during he family's brief absence from heir residence.

confirmed automobilist and nearly every pleasant Sunday can be seen here on our streets enjoying a spin. His father, Asher Parker, was with him last Sunday and how cheerfully the wheels went around.

Harry Clack, son of the former stor of the Troy M. E. Church astor of the Troy M. E. Church inderwent an operation for ap-endicitis last Wednesday. Dr. An-erson had charge of the patient nd was ably assisted by Dr. C. U. Raynale and his talented son. Ir. Geo.

20 years ago
OCTOBER 9, 1930
The operation of a gravel pit in
Bloomfield Hills has caused a test
case of the zoning ordinance. It
is expected the constitutionality
of the pit will be tested in circuit court this month.

The Rev. Roland E. Scaer, pastor of the Redeemer Lutheran church, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the church in Greenshoro, N. C., and has already moved his family to that city. The pastor of a Detroit church is preaching here until another regular pastor can be secured.

Dr. Arthur W. Newitt, who has been public health officer for Bir-mingham for the past nine years, has resigned his office, to become effective Oct. 31. He was largely

responsible for the establishment of the city health department and its splendid work.

Local merchants will supply \$2 automobiles and appropriate slogan cards for the parade this evening which will mark fire prevention week in Birmingham. City officials, city fire trucks, school children and the high school band will appear in the line of march.

M. Raynale and his talented son. If the control of the control of

Life in our army camps was described to members of the Ro-tary club last Monday by the Rev. W. Glen Harris, paster of the First Presbyterian church. He spent several months in camps during the war and said there was little danger of the American soldier ever wanting to change

other.

Merrill C. Adams, 516 Kennesaw, has been elected to the board of directors of the Birmingham National bank. He will succeed the late Chancey Nixon, member of the board for many years. He has been a resident of Birmingham since 1932.

We Heard It Said By:-

Ticklers

By George



"Heart disease is a major killer, it says here. The trouble with us Americans is that we're always in too much of a hurry. It's rush, rush, rush all the time."

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

WHAT WOULD YOUR DEFINITION BE?

From a bomber named "The forth the things in which he beHonorable Sad Saki". Ben was
lable to get in many a lice at the
"dishonorable ancestors."

AFTER DEMONILIZATION,
Ben decided to enter the newspaper field, the studied yournals in
in Nobraska, then bought the
York Republism. The iman with the
York Republism. The iman will be part of the American credican cred-

ltimes.

Henn to a Nebraska patata-of are sendant of Pilgrims John and Pirakilla.

Born to a Nebraska patata-of are sendant of Pilgrims John and Pirakilla.

Ban's debut edition was called "Operation Democracy". It was all the proper of the part of the proper of the part of the part

By George S. Benson

LOOKING AHEAD

BEHIND THE CHINA CURTAIN-

With world attention centered on the Orient, and especially on China and its behavior under consolitation of the Property of the Property of the Orient, and especially on China and its behavior under consolitation of the Property of the Orient, and especially on China and its behavior under consolitation of the Property of the Oriental China and its behavior under consolitation of the Oriental China and the Section of the Oriental China and the scenes in this area so important to the future of Asia and indeed, the whole world.

2 Chinese business man who has spent his lifetime in China, who has had personal contact with a spent his lifetime in China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who had the Communistation of the Oriental China, who has had personal contact with the Communistation of the Oriental China, who had the Communistation of the Oriental China, and the Communistation of the Oriental China, and t

MICHIGAN MIRROR

By Gene Alleman

of the north limited to bucks with at least 3-inch spikes. At the same time, the sea-son opened for new withheld-season opened for new withheld-will fast their first psychecks issued of the Cotober 1 sub-ject to new income tax rates, reughly 20 percent higher with their psychecks of the microparty of the cotober of the microparty of the cotober of the limited of the cotober of the cotober

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

o The Editor:

If the Administration keeps tanging its department heads, setty soon the democrats will se power through the process of instantial contents.

nination.
The change in personnel is so that some of the men being to intended to high office are buy-round trip tickets to Washing-

ton.

Some people are losing faith in the Democrats. Only a few days ago a twelve year old girl had to go to a Republican to try to find out what the President's salary is.

Any Democrat could have given that answer, Republicans are seldom asked such a question.

IF THE PRESIDENT keeps fell-ng timber in his political forest, re may have another petrified for-

IF THE PRESIDENT keeps felling timber in his political forest, we may have another petrified forest, we may have another petrified forest. Our Capitol. In Washington is like a huge mirror. We can see both the good and the had reflected as we gazge into it.

A man holding a high government of the property of the prope

A man twenty post is just a political hate where we were a political hate well. last time I looked into the Washington mirror, I couldn't behive I was changing so much. A mirror is no respecter of looks and it will give back bad looks for had looks. The week of the well of the well

-STATE ARCHERS START DEER SEASON-

and Michigan cause into the arisinal role.

Building is in the grips of the worst uncertainty in years. Spensers of many large the worst was a superstanding the worst was a superstanding to the worst who was then were almost recently after giving up the teach was then were almost recently after giving up the full was the war, how were almost a superstanding up to 15 percent, or 15 percent, or

enough materials to hurt output.
By 1951, the year's production total should be over 6,000,000 units,
1,000,000 trucks.

War production will not

hart the auto industry seri-ously unless the car makers of it, designs can be changed to reduce chrome trim, cop-per parts, and the like. Cupids aim imgroved about 100 Cupids aimgroved about 100 Cupids aimgroved ab

news foregasts a decline in word dings.

The flight of deliars into things, was maintained in September by the second of the September by the second of the The public is increasingly aware of the fugifier power times. With the sulfillary, spending now plocked, the danger is real, so people are terring the goods instead off the sliver limits to this cloud in that inflation helps finance state overment, may turn back the in Michigan stores mean reserve-tion for the sliver of the sliver of the in Michigan stores mean reserve-vunc for state and local govern-

Beautiful October By BEATRICE McDONALD

It rained last night and the grapes are shinning blue Waiting a rime of frost to give them tang. Just as I wakened the wild canaries sang. Two little fat ones sipping the morning dew.

Where thick clouds cluster the sky shows through, Turquoise, gentian and robin's egg scraps With the dark cloud edges like folded flaps Framing the uneven patches of blue.

The fields are golden . . . 'the sun is war And scarcely a hint of weather and stor Comes over the land from across the h The sturdiest flowers are blossoming still.