

Uncle Sam Puts His Foot Down



Happenings of Long Ago

Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

5 years ago OCTOBER 4, 1945 Luther Lord, a guard with Brink's Inc. was one of the two guards who captured a Detroit negro, Richard Ruff, after he had shot and killed another Brink guard in an attempted holdup.

Dominic Caputo, local chairman of the city commission Monday night said today that during the past three years Birmingham had collected 4,042,923 pounds of war-needed materials. A vote of thanks was extended him by members of the city commission Monday night.

Schools in Birmingham and the entire area will be closed from Wednesday afternoon for the balance of the week to enable faculty members to attend a state teachers' meet. The session will be held in Detroit.

A. E. Arnold, local photographer, was re-elected to the office of secretary-treasurer at the Michigan Photographers annual convention in Saginaw last week. E. D. Robinson of Pontiac was named president of the society.

Troop B7, sponsored by Pierce school PTA, will hold a court of honor at the school Monday evening, Oct. 8. The general public as well as the parents of troop members, may attend. The program will be directed by Scoutmaster Robert C. Boone.

20 years ago OCTOBER 2, 1930 Services for Mrs. Emma Elizabeth Couzens, mother of Sen. James Couzens, were held in Highland Park Tuesday. Mrs. Couzens, 81, died suddenly last Saturday night after suffering a stroke earlier in the day.

Motion pictures of life at the YMCA camp at Loda Lake were shown to members of the Birmingham Lions club after their luncheon Wednesday. The club budget for the coming year was approved by the members.

R. Y. Meo was named to succeed Willis Brewster for a

three year term on the board of trustees of the Oakland county tuberculosis sanatorium after a stormy session of the county supervisors, Monday. Moore is on the county auditors board.

Ten apple thieves were told to pay fines of \$30 each and the men paid their fines and were released while the remainder were committed to the Oakland county jail in Pontiac.

The Judson Bradley room for boys is now open at the Community House and ready for use. The room has been closed throughout the summer months. Billy Cruikshank has been made supervisor of activities for the coming year.

50 years ago SEPTEMBER 28, 1900 The light colored giant, who has visited Birmingham again, removing valuables in broad daylight from several homes here. There are Miss Mollie Smith and the Schluack and Worth homes. The clever crook left not a single clue.

A very noticeable event took place Thursday, Sept. 13, at the home of Mrs. H. I. Johnson of Southfield, the occasion being her 80th birthday. The event was noticeable because all day and far into the evening well-wishers wished their way to her doorstep.

Miss Flora Chatfield, daughter of Ira Chatfield, who has been a government nurse in the Philippines, is home again. She is in the best of health and expects to leave for San Francisco in a very few days.

Miss Maimie Daniels of this place left Saturday last for Novi where she has accepted a position as postmistress under the supervision of Levi Wooster. We do not doubt her outstanding success.

The regular meeting of the W. C. T. U. will be held in the Baptist church this Wednesday, Oct. 4. We are trying very hard to obtain the services of some speaker who has earned an enviable reputation and will be an attraction for a large attendance.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

B'HAM COULD USE AN OUTSIDE MUNICIPAL POOL

At the city's 1949 spring election, voters turned down a proposition to build a new municipal swimming pool.

These people like the idea. Birmingham is fortunate in having the amount of park property it has. Of course, it should be improved if the maximum benefit is to be obtained.

That takes money. The city in placing that \$50,000 bond issue on the ballot, was of the opinion that several parks should be improved or almost completely in the same year.

NOR DID THE city believe it could obtain the \$50,000 all in one year from tax revenue.

Hence the proposed bond issue. From my rambling around town, I find citizens for the most part who like our recreation facilities improved. However, they hesitate to commit themselves to a summer recreation program.

THE BARNUM POOL is limited to about 250 persons. That's the number that can be

handled safely. Recreation Director Frank Whitney tells me. "And we need to have any room in getting 250 people and kids—to use it. In fact, we have a problem in expanding the pool. It can't be accommodated," he declared.

At a nominal daily rate—such as 25 cents for youngsters and 50 cents for adults—the pool should pay for itself in a comparatively short time.

It might be advisable to sell tickets. If we could obtain efficient operation, we might make a profit. The profit could be used to develop the city's other park areas.

FOR SOME TIME, the city recreation board has been trying with this idea, but hasn't really made any real study of its practicability. They perhaps would designate someone to make an intensive study and report on it.

IF you have any comments on the subject, why not comment on them to the care of Frank Whitney at Hill School? You never know, unless you ask for it, you know.

LOOKING AHEAD By George S. Benson

WHAT CAN WOMEN DO?

Our daily mail brings many letters from people of all callings and in every section of the country. They ask questions, make suggestions, give encouragement, offer criticism.

An unusually thought-provoking letter has just been received from a woman residing in an urban community in the metropolitan area of New York. She says she is tired of inaction.

"What can we (women) do," she asks. "I am tired of the wonderful country from getting into the awful muddle that England is in now!"

I FEEL THAT women are the only hope and I hope you won't misunderstand me or laugh at me.

If a few of the women's organizations could be made aware of the danger to our country if this drift toward government control of things continues, I am sure you would be surprised at the response.

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WE've prepared a kit at Hardaway Conference "Women Do?" It contains "briefing" material on American history, free enterprise, economics and Socialism.

It is set forth in detail "A plan of action for women interested in helping preserve our American way of life."

Women have been in attendance at our last five Harding College Freedom Forums.

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Baseball, war and politics—framed front pages in Michigan this week. There'll be another world series next year, but no second year of the heavy Democratic turnout as a call to arms.

Now it can be told. This year saw the biggest primary turnout (900,000 voters) since 1900 and it was all thanks to baseball if spectator participation reflected such apathy.

Round Table Talk Will Feature PTA Annual Dinner Meet

The annual dinner of the PTA will be held in the Community House at 6:45 p.m. next Wednesday evening. Dr. and Mrs. Dwight B. Hodder and Mrs. Mrs. Grant Barber will be honor guests.

The program will be a round table discussion on "Birmingham Recreation Survey" with T. Hollister Matley as moderator. Panel members are Mrs. F. K. Hatfield, Mrs. William Jackson, Mrs. Ege and James Tobin, Mrs. H. S. Boothby is program chairman.

To enable parents to meet and talk with the teachers who are working with their children, the elementary school teachers are ar-hersthes and room mother of each table will be followed.

MRS. W. B. BOWMAN is in charge of membership, assisted by Mrs. E. F. Schaefer. Reservations for the dinner may be made with the various room mothers or from Mrs. D. F. Mosher. All must be in by noon tomorrow.

Mrs. Fred L. Sage is in charge of decorations. Paper is thought to have been invented in China about 105 B. C.

Late Summer By BEATRICE McDONALD O, lovely silver moon, so slim and young, Shining and weaving in and out among Goose-feather motled skies of somber grey.

New York housewife in her letter, "is that we women are already employed full time as wives and mothers and I think most of us like to think of government and politics as our work."

HOWEVER, WE DO have a surprising amount of interest. I think married men will agree we are free and independent thinkers and we have enormous energy.

Any woman with a desire to do something for her country must take time!

If she needs help in getting started, most any Kivans, Rotary, Lions club of Chamber of Commerce will assist. Here's a starter program:

1. Become informed—especially on the basic facts of Capitalism and Socialism.

2. Get an Americanism movie (on loan) and show it to teacher and student groups in businesses and industries in your area.

3. Ask your local radio station to carry a series of talks in a series; several are available without cost.

4. SPEAK UP. Address women's clubs, employee groups, P.T.A.'s, Women's Clubs, public officials, your newspapers. "Sometimes," the New York woman wrote, "if only the women of the world put their minds to it."

What a great challenge to our American women!

MICHIGAN MIRROR By Gene Alteman

BASEBALL, WAR AND POLITICS

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O, gold sun shining on the gold-streaked land, And on the rivers and the loam and sand, Stay on and on until the year grows late And let the ruthless boddy winter wait!

But the coming election will be a contest of nerves in Michigan next month. Both sides are lining up for a slugfest, with the G.O.P. recognizing the heavy Democratic turnout as a call to arms.

Relief for those inducted into the draft and recruits can forget their bills. While in the service not even income tax evasion can be prosecuted and the new law in Michigan has its way. This group recommends giving the combat boys fruit juice and soft drinks instead.

While more profit taxes are boomed in Washington, the echo can be heard in Michigan. P. Steadman says the state had a \$45 million deficit during the fiscal year ending June 30. He says that only by new taxes can the state overcome this deficit position.

But Michiganders are saving their money. At least bank deposits in the state went up five per cent last year making a total of more than five billion dollars as of last December.

War officials has come to Michigan's industry now. Ford and Cadillac have announced they now have 105 contracts to build—first large contracts to be let in the state.

Hand in glove with war contracts goes the U.S. War Department is urging employers to consider physically handicapped men for the war. The nation handicapped World War II veterans will find a place in this new crisis.

A committee has been formed in this state to push the \$65,000,000 bond issue (to be on the November ballot) which would allow the state to borrow money for construction and TB beds. Name? Michigan Citizens Education Campaign.

A four color map of "Historic Michigan" will be ready for distribution early 1951 according to the state historical commission. The map has been three years in the making and goes to the printers soon.

going to be the 'boss,' is the answer to the query."

To add fuel to the fire, he insists that "efficiency in the family life is best served by the dominance of one person."

This will not cause much trouble in itself. Every member of the family will readily agree. The havoc begins when somebody tries to gain the dominance.

Another Vicious Circle

When you get tired of war news and preparedness programs, begin to pass up political rumors and ignore the vital issues of the day, you might as well hunt for a good book and read some pleasant fiction.

If this doesn't work in your case, you might try a fishing trip, a leisurely journey somewhere or other, or do something else that suits your peculiar disposition and pocketbook.

When you get through with it, you will probably be strong enough to begin reading again about war, preparedness, the political races and other vital issues. So goes the world in what we refer to as this enlightened age.

From Our Point of View

Now that Henry Agard Wallace has forsaken the Progressive Party, which he headed as a Presidential candidate in 1948, his stature rises a bit with Americans. His change came about when the Progressive Party sought to have him publicly criticize the U.S.A. for intervening in Korea.

That was too much for Henry. Now that his political star is set, may the twilight of his life be spent in some remorse for the help he so blindly gave to FDR in the latter's acceptance of Joe Stalin "as a nice guy".

There are times when the treatment given men in high public places smacks of the methods of hoodlums. For example, former Defense Director Louey Johnson was placed on the skids by his pal, the President, as mercilessly as one hoodlum would knock off another. Truman appears to symbolize the axiom that "cronies are thicker than water."

After gallivanting about the country for nearly two months to escape jail service because he failed to pay a \$7,500 libel judgment, Dearborn's Mayor Hubbard is back in his town. His antics amused many. Were he down south, and aided by a hill-billy band, he might be elected governor of some state.

A new piano, destined for the White House, got side-tracked in a truck in South Carolina. This is the first time we learn that President Truman intends to try a new piano... but will the tune be the same old governmental discords?

World War I Artillery Captain Harry S. Truman has recently discovered that the United States Marines have a lot of loyal friends. Also, he has discovered that to compare any good American with Joe Stalin is to heap praise upon the devil.

Egypt, of course, has had troubles for a long time. One of the reasons is revealed the behaviour of its present King Farouk, who, at 30 years of age and greatly fat, wanders about Europe with lust in his dissolute eyes... though he has a wife, he believes his rank entitles him to play carnal lover to all who attract his appetite.

So They Say . . .

David Sarnoff, official, Radio Corporation of America: "It is within the range of possibility that the public will watch action on flatbeds while sitting at home in front of television sets."

Charles G. Dawes, former Vice-President, now 85 years of age: "I think more harm is done by old men who seek to cling to their influence than by young men who anticipate it."

William Earl Waldrop, preacher: "We have been more concerned with keeping our ears to the ground than having our faces to the stars."

Austin Pardue, Episcopal bishop: "If the church believes that war is justifiable, she should plead for full preparations at all times."

Joseph C. O'Mahoney, U. S. Senator from Wyoming: "This is no time to defer or exempt the profit dollar when we are drafting men."

Politicians Only People!

Citizens in the United States exercise the right to criticize their public officials, or to commend them. This is as it should be in a democracy.

Yet, in their criticism, many people reveal a naive attitude of mind. In the background of their thinking they unrealistically assume that public officials are, or should be, near-perfect human beings.

Experience proves, however, that men and women who occupy public office—even the highest—are not perfect. They come from the same mould that shapes every average citizen. Some are very, very honest and able, the remainder run all the way down to the comparative few who are ignorant, dishonest.

It seems to us that citizens would do better thinking on the subject if they realized that most people in public office—especially the bigger places—win and retain their jobs by various methods, not all honest or dishonest.

Their public jobs (and here we speak chiefly of elective ones) depend upon playing to the stupidity, the greed, the emotions of as many voters as possible. If they accomplish this by intellectual dishonest means, or by giving economic subsidies or special privileges to certain groups, it is only because "the game of politics" is played that way.

No intelligent and informed person, gazing at the scene of American politics, would say that it is played according to high standards of ethics and personal conduct. Yet so many citizens, passing judgment on politicians, do so against the background of their own (the citizens') pattern of political perfection . . . a pattern which is pure fiction.

Politicians are people! Politicians are not perfect!

A Great American

A great citizen, a great soldier, a great man, again has been summoned from retirement to help his country in time of need.

George C. Marshall, who generalised our military during World War II, responded to President Truman's request that he become Director of Defense.

Marshall, so honest himself, is less skillful in diplomacy than is Secretary of State Dean Acheson, who is said to be able to win Marshall to his international ideas.

Only time will tell whether or not Gen. Marshall becomes clay in the hands of a man (Acheson) who, more and more, is losing the confidence of the American people.

Cause For Gratitude

Every loyal American, every night, ought to thank God that a man like Gen. MacArthur heads the United Nations military efforts in the Far East war. Imagine, for example, what would have happened if we had the great military (?) genius of "deep freeze" Gen. Harry Vaughan leading our troops in Korea!

(By the way, any day now we'll expect "deep freeze" to make a pleasure trip to the Far East front so he can have his part in the White House pin another medal upon his heaving breast.)

Source of Family Trouble

Some of the psychiatrists are hard-headed, stubborn boys. They will tackle any problem and give an answer without wasting words in shading the question until it loses forcefulness.

Now, what do you think is the greatest source of family trouble? "This is a question that has wrecked romance, blasted family life and disintegrated the home. In fact, it is such a dangerous query that a cagey individual, male or female, will pass it up almost without reading it."

Not so, however, with keen psychiatrists. Recently, one of them, right off the bat and apparently without a thought of his home-life, said: "The struggle between husband and wife over who is

Main Street by Ralph Stein

