

Veterans Prove to Be Good Students

The deadline for starting educational training under the G. I. Bill has passed but since it began seven years ago, 5,000,000 veterans have attended school or college under governmental subsidy at a cost to the nation of \$14,000,000,000. The Education Bill, adopted in 1944 when millions of Americans were involved in fighting for the defense of their country, was designed to provide financial assistance for veterans who decided to go to school or college upon returning to civilian status. The original law was amended a number of times to liberalize its provisions. Depending upon length of service, the veterans were given up to four years of free schooling with the government paying the expense of their education. IT SHOULD BE remembered by Americans at this time that when the bill was passed, it was feared that there would be another repetition of the apple-selling

veteran on the streets of our cities. The prospect at that time was that, when the war ended, peace-time industry could not assimilate the released labor force and, consequently, something should be done to encourage the veterans to improve their educational status. Much the same thought was behind the unemployment compensation payments plan. While there have been some abuses of the privileges extended to the veterans, both on the part of the veterans and on the part of some institutions of learning, the main result of the program has been excellent. The minor inefficiency and the fact that some of the veterans have not applied themselves to learning as much as to drawing the subsistence allotment, do not change the fact that, in the main, the veterans behaved themselves in a manner to justify the government's expense.

FROM MANY COLLEGE campuses have come favorable comments on the industry and behavior of the G. I. students. In fact, the men went back to school with serious intention of taking advantage of their opportunity. Their behavior and scholarship compared favorably with that of regular students in our colleges and universities.

The deadline of July 25 applied to most of the veterans of World War II—those discharged before July 25th, 1947. Veterans discharged after that date could begin their training within four years of the time they left the service. The probability is that a similar provision will be made in behalf of veterans fighting in Korea. AT THE PEAK of the program in 1947, more than one million veterans were on the campuses of the nation, getting free tuition and subsistence grants. Close to 500,000 service men are still at work in colleges and universities, although the number is dwindling rapidly.

When you use grey or black paint, you do not expect what you are painting to turn out white. When you elect incompetent, unethical, ignorant people to public office, you should not expect them to give you clean and honest government. The real trouble with American self-government these days is that people use the wrong kind of "paint," foolishly expecting it to show up as another color.

The fabulous incomes that accrue to movie actors and actresses, songsters who cannot sing, radio and TV headliners is monetary proof that the American people, as a general rule, do not know how to place a true value on entertainment.

Plunging Necklines

The plunging neckline has the officials of television stations somewhat worried. A special committee is going to work on a program which will apply to such matters as the "T. V." neckline and excessive commercials. The telecasters frankly fear that unless they do something about program standards, somebody will do it for them. They may be right because the history of this country shows that abuses on the part of money-makers are usually corrected by regulations which are then denounced as "regimentation."

So far as the necklines are concerned the standard radio stations have nothing to worry about. The "excessive commercials" part of the study might engage their attention also. The Birmingham Eclectic Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eclectic Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

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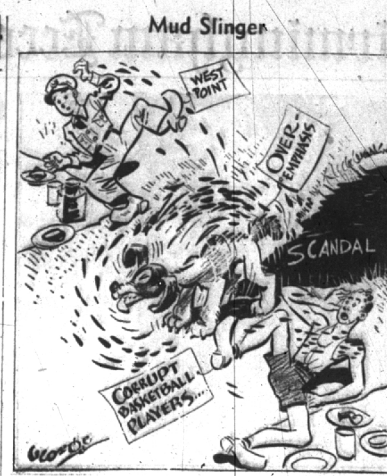
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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

There's a large Birmingham group that is more eager than the city commission to hear what Commissioner Frank Rising's swimming pool committee has to say to its preliminary report due for release into this month. This group comprises all the local boys and girls who have been crowding into Bauman pool, need another outlet for their summertime aquatic interests. Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia proposes a "single package" bill so Congress can act intelligently on the nation's spending program. The Senator calls attention to the prospect of the U. S. having an overall expenditure of between \$75 and \$80 billion annually for the next 1952 fiscal year. He doesn't seem to see how Congress can intelligently pass on the issues involved through a piecemeal consideration of a dozen or more separate bills "brought in one by one over a period of six months or more." Privately and in this column I have been expounding such "single package" method of spending the taxpayer's money. School districts, townships, cities and states do it—and it works. federal government might find it works, too. It would even go the Senator would better suggest that federal revenues be obtained "single package" as well. John Doe pays the bill, no matter in what open or hidden form it is presented. If a state or city needs money with which to operate, let it be obtained directly from the taxpayer. ADVANCE—by some equitable means of one, direct tax. Many persons (including some adults) have wondered whether an umbrella might be used as a successful parachute. Well, a South Africa gentleman has lately answered the question, as far as I'm concerned. He recently won a fifty-cent story building holding an open umbrella. He didn't make any money, however. He ran up at the hospital where he was treated for injuries to his ankles and wrists. Admitting that the govern-



Happenings of Long Ago

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

50 YEARS AGO August 16, 1901 The action of our city fathers in refusing to so enlarge the water supply as to enable us to sprinkle the street has decided several families not to spend another summer here.

Some beautiful things in our home town—the ivy overgrown post in front of Mrs. Poppleton's home, a mound covered with morning glories in Mrs. Utter's yard; a fine shrub of Tamarix Africanus in the little park.

Will Baum brought into our enclosure last week a stalk of corn that would make one of the great corn growing states out west smile all over. This particular specimen measures just 14 feet and the editor can only just reach the lowest ear on the stalk.

Wm. Robinson the painter is giving Whitehead's house, occupied by Frank McHugh, two coats of Hammer paint. The paint is guaranteed by the manufacturer and sold in Birmingham by Whitehead and Mitchell, local businessmen.

Who says M. H. Blant doesn't know how to make farming profitable as well as being a successful auctioneer? He recently sold 12 cows of his own raising to Becker, a Detroit milk dealer, for a comfortable \$500 cash.

20 YEARS AGO August 20, 1931 Mrs. Kette M. Barr has resigned after 16 years as the head of the Baldwin public library board. Giving ill health as her reason, Mrs. Barr asked to be released from her duties immediately. Her request was granted, with many expressions of regret.

Charles J. Shain has been named president of the Birmingham Savings bank to succeed Judson Bradway who has resigned. Bradway will continue to serve as one of the directors of the bank.

Police Chief J. P. Hackett assures Birmingham residents that illegal drinking is no problem here. "We have no white mule to be found here," he said last week. "We cleaned up two months ago and have had no further complaints."

July was a record month for reading in Birmingham according to library reports. More than 7,842 books were circulated, Mrs. Nancy B. Thomas, librarian said, showing a marked increase over any previous month.

Lack of rainfall this summer has brought a warning from village officials that cars must be exercised in the amounts of water used. It is the driest summer in 50 years and fire hazards are constantly increasing. Residents are urged to conserve water and take every precaution against fire.

5 YEARS AGO August 22, 1946 Fire Marshal George S. Scott is asking residents to check all heating units now so any defects may be corrected before the cold weather comes. "It may save your home to spend a bit of time at it now," he warns.

Paul D. Carter, principal of Adams school, was named director of elementary school curriculum for the Birmingham system by the board of education Tuesday. He will assume the duties of the new position at the opening of the fall term.

A delegation from the Poppleton recreation board members appeared before the Birmingham board Tuesday evening to ask local reconsideration of their request for annexation.

The machine-age has hit the winter weather problems. A mechanical spreader for putting a protective coating of sand on slippery streets has been ordered and will be put into service this winter.

Actual work of dragging most of the "staying muck from the bottom of Quenton lake should begin some time this week. City Manager Donald C. Egbert announced Monday that the lake has dried enough for the project to be started.

TRAFFIC WOES You and I drive down the street, carefully minding our own business and, all of a sudden, a charming gentleman in blue tells us of a half dozen traffic violations we have been guilty of in the last week. We offer a weak protest, accept (reluctantly) the slip he so kindly offers, and go on our way, weeping silently about the troubles of operating a motor vehicle.

Believe me, it's nothing new. People have been doing it for years. Signed by J. Harry McBride, village president, and Hazel E. Clark, village clerk, on Sept. 17, 1923, a city ordinance stated a whole list of things which could cause grief. When you feel you down here because of traffic rules and regulations, just be thankful those old laws have been taken off the books.

THOSE 1923 motorists were guilty of reckless driving if they approached a pedestrian at more than 10 miles mph. They were equally guilty if they drove over the pedestrian route at a speed "faster than a walk" or if they backed out of an alley without having a pedestrian to ahead of them to see if the way was clear.

It was also illegal to drive at more than 15 mph in the business district and 20 mph in residential sections. Furthermore, it was considered reckless for any motorist to drive to the left of any dummy policeman used to mark an intersection.

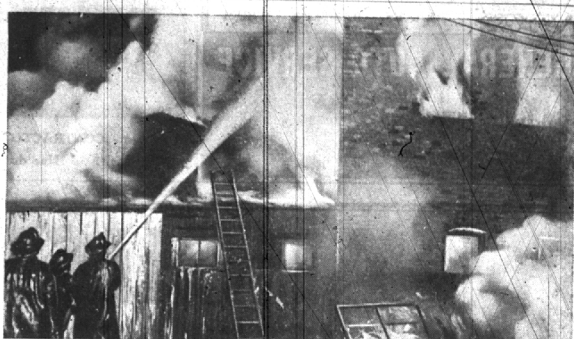
Then, as now, you could not drive over a fire hose, follow a fire truck or interfere with its responding to an alarm. In addition, they could not drive within 300 feet of the scene of a fire.

IN BIRMINGHAM it was illegal to leave their cars at the curb unattended and have the motor running and "locked the vehicle or some

Birmingham Youth Earns Tuxis Award

CULVER, Ind.—William R. Vanderkloot has been awarded the Tuxis bronze medal at the Culver Military academy summer school. More than 600 boys from 40 states and 10 foreign countries are enrolled in the naval school here for the summer session. Vanderkloot, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Vanderkloot, 975 Arlington, is now eligible to begin work on the Tuxis silver medal given for more advanced accomplishments. The bronze medal is awarded to midshipmen who have demonstrated proficiency in five different phases of the Culver officials the individual and competitive athletic, military proficiency, seamanship, academics and social activities. General news deadline is 4:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Here's Your Headquarters For WINDOW SHADES VENETIAN BLINDS PORCH SHADES Phone Lincoln 1-4936 BESSENGER'S 2335 Woodward Between 9 and 10 Mile Rd. PICKUP AND DELIVERY



Fire talks to operators

Early one morning in the telephone office at Marquette, the switchboard signal from a local fruit market's telephone flashed on. Operator Pat O'Donnell answered the "call," but no one was on the line—only a strange crackling noise. Unable to identify the sound, Pat called for Mrs. Lucy M. Bush, the night chief operator.

Mrs. Bush knew what the mysterious noise was. Her 34 years of telephone experience had taught her many things, and this, she could tell, was the sound of fire!

Immediately she notified the police and the fire department. They found the fruit market in flames. Fortunately, though, damage to the market was limited, and the buildings next door were saved—because of quick thinking, experience and teamwork.

It's People Who Make Telephone Service Good MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

FAVORITE FIELDER'S CHOICE "It's Easy!" CLAIM THE GROTHS ... WHEN YOUR RANGE IS ELECTRIC BARBECUED SPARERIBS (Cook at the Plate) Come in and see THE "RANGE of the STARS" of the COURSE, it's ELECTRIC! SEE YOUR DEALER or Detroit Edison