

The Majority Has Rights

There are some individuals in the United States who are concerned about preserving the rights of minorities that they forget the rights of the majority. In a democratic nation the majority has the right to rule the country. The idea seems to be absurd in some quarters. Many persons in the zeal of personal expression, overlook their duty as patriots to permit the majority decision, when legally established, to prevail effectively. In the realm of politics, this is dangerous. National policy, expressed in majority opinion, has the right of way over minority opinion, which has no right to use the privileges of democracy as a weapon to defeat effective government.

WITH ALL THIS TALK going around about the rights of individuals and minorities, it is well, upon occasions, to remember that the majority has some rights which even a minority is expected to respect.

This, however, DOES NOT prevent the minority from constructively criticizing the majority regarding any of the latter's decisions.

From Our Point of View

What this country needs more than a five-cent coin or a nickel worth five cents, is a statesman—a public servant who refuses to appeal to the prejudices and emotions of his constituents.

If others are to be drawn to your religious creed, you must show them by daily example that it is worth believing in.

Someone ought to tell the political predictors, who have already decided the results of the 1952 elections, that the people haven't decided.

So They Say . . .

George Santayana, 87-year-old philosopher: "Mankind is a race of animals living in a material world."
Eric Johnston, Economic Stabilization Administrator: "Too many people cry before they are hurt."

Robert A. Taft, U.S. Senator from Ohio: "The sooner we can end the Korean war by aggressive measures, the fewer lives we will lose and the less money we will spend."
Harry S. Truman: "We cannot win peace through appeasement. We cannot gain security in isolation."

The Birmingham Eclectic

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The Eclectic is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association and University Press Club.
The Eclectic will publish contributed material providing it has news value. Suggestions are welcomed. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the Eclectic, will be promptly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

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INDIRECTLY, it is rewarded by the subscriptions of those persons in the community who are favorably impressed with the newspaper's fulfillment of this news-gathering function.
While a good newspaper attempts to attract the news of its community, it must have the cooperation of its subscribers and the general public if the coverage is to be complete.
In addition to publishing news items, the average newspaper offers space for sale to business enterprises. This type of news, published in the interest of business

Advice That Will Be Ignored

The policy committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States fears that heavy government spending will lead to "large-scale inflation." The committee recognized the necessity to pour out money for defense, both at home and abroad, if all-out war is to be avoided.
It felt, however, that non-essential government expenditures can be reduced "if citizens will refrain from seeking government handouts."
It concludes that "business" should take the lead in promoting a program of "self-control."

HOWEVER, WE DOUBT if many citizens will pass up any opportunity to get government funds. We likewise doubt that businessmen, if they have a chance, will follow this suggested policy of "self-control."
That is, unless they have changed their attitude overnight.

Let's Try to Protect Children

Two little children, playing in an abandoned house in New Jersey last month, became imprisoned in an abandoned refrigerator and suffocated before they could be located by a searching party.
Because this was the second tragedy of its kind in the state in less than a year, Public Safety Director John E. Koeman, calling attention to similar fatalities in other states, called upon householders to remove the doors of refrigerators when they are discarded.
We call attention to the advice because we have also noticed a painful repetition of such unfortunate accidents.

WHILE NOBODY WHO abandons the use of a refrigerator expects little children to lock themselves in the box to be suffocated when the door slams, the possibility exists.
It is not much trouble to remove the doors and make it impossible for such tragedies to occur.
It might be wise for every Birmingham parent to look over his premises for abandoned refrigerators, or similar objects large enough for children to crawl into, and render these potential dangers harmless.

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Both Are Valuable

Let's not make the mistake of underestimating intelligence!
Too many people take opportunities to say smart things about the man of book intelligence, suggesting that they believe he has been seduced by a big joke.
No problem of the world, not even the MacArthur-Truman squabble, will be solved by emotions. No great benefit comes to the world except through improvement. Thousands of experiments would have been valueless without a trained mind to read the message and apply it truthfully.
It is all right for a man to take pride in his experience, garnered through the years. He has something that is distinctly an asset to him.
However, let him not under-estimate the value of so-called book-intelligence, if he has little of it.

EXPERIENCE AND INTELLIGENCE together will solve many problems that neither alone can handle. The man without either is handicapped.
He who pokes fun at intelligence, is as foolish as the bookworm who imagines that he can understand life from reading between the covers of a book.

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Problem Child



Happenings of Long Ago

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

50 YEARS AGO
June 14, 1893
Why not keep your dogs away from the cemetery? It is a halcyon day around the graveyard. Furthermore, lot owners are constantly annoyed by the damage done there by roaming dogs.
Talk about your black ward spring! There was actually ice to be seen in Mitchell's dooryard on Saturday morning, June 8, 1901. He reported no damage to his garden, however, and no crop damage has been reported in the environs.
If you want to sell your tobacco, Standard Navy, Old Honey, Star Head, Knobby Spoon, Kildie, etc., see Raynal Whitehead. He pays 60¢ a hundred for them and gives you the cash right then.
One added feature of the program was that this season will be a series of lectures on theological and historic lines, one each morning by prominent ministers who have made a special study of the subjects presented.
Civil government is taught in our schools and why not have a chapter on our village government? The members of the high school even do not know that the village is a corporation, that it has bills and notices on trees and posts and many of them do not give their lots to the city.
20 YEARS AGO
June 18, 1931
With all our clubs pledging their support and land owners in the vicinity of Grand Trunk express they will be asked to take part in the celebration scheduled for their opening program. A group of committees will be held in the municipal building Friday evening to plan the event.
The Rev. D. L. Woodward of the Baptist church told 75 members of the Baldwin high school graduating class to build their futures on Faith. He emphasized the need of religion in everyday living. Thursday the group will hear a commencement address by the Rev. M. S. Rice of the Metropolitan church in Detroit.
Lloyd L. Stanley has been named vice-commander of the sixth state district, American Legion. He has been commander of the local post since 1927.
Village commissioners have barred the operation of a county dog law here, to substitute its measures with a licensing law for its own confines.
F. F. McKinney and John E. Martz have announced themselves candidates for the annual election of board of education members.
5 YEARS AGO
June 20, 1946
Kim Sigler, former special prosecutor won the primary election Tuesday as Republican candidate for governor of Michigan. The voting in Birmingham gave Sigler a three-to-one lead over Lt. Gov. J. F. Brown, Raymond Kelly and Edward J. Jeffrey.
Birmingham suffered attacks by three storms over the weekend, the worst to strike the area in years. Although little damage came from the unusually hard wind, rain and lightning, electrical power and telephone service was disrupted in many parts of the city.
Another discussion will be heard at the city commission meeting Monday on housing for veterans in Birmingham. Members of the Real Estate board will discuss plans for raising the situation.
Work of installing parking meters was begun in the business district last week when standards were set. Meter heads will be installed within a few days and the meter operation started in the city.
Birmingham MOMS club announces its annual tag day which this year, will be held Sept. 28, depending on the weather. The money collected will be used for hospitalized veterans.

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HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN
SALUTE!
Let's give pause today, June 14, to the men and women who are talking about our flag.
Historically, it is quite a topic of conversation with its background of fact and fiction. Quite a topic, too, if you just deal with cold facts which concern the many fields over which it has flown during its rather hectic history.
Of course, one thing we like to read is that it has never flown down in defeat. Pray God it never will—not the things it stands for.
The fact is that the history of our flag is based on a design carried by the Philadelphia Light Horse back in 1775. However, it was not until June 22, 1942 that Congress took action to pass an act to free the stars from the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew.
GOING BACK TO history, we are told that the flag was adopted at Cambridge, Gen. Washington, without authorization from the Continental Congress raised a flag of 13 alternate red and white stripes with the blue field bearing the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew.
From this it is quite easy to suppose our present design grew. Historians like to blast the romantic Betsy Ross theory, though, and believe that the flag was designed by Francis Hopson, a member of the Declaration of Independence signers.
The first flag of 48 stripes and 13 stars was authorized and remained the national emblem until 1862. Congress then passed an act to place 15 stars upon the blue field. The flag then continued without change until 1818, when it was voted to add new stars as each new state was admitted to the Union.
THIS CONGRESSIONAL act ended the circular arrangement

Schedule for City Softball League Stated

Two nights a week will be given over to games in the Birmingham YMCA-City Recreation softball league this summer. Season got underway Monday, June 4 with Michigan Bell Telephone and Summer Motors taking opening tilts.
Schedule through the month of June is: June 14, Fox and Hounds-Merchants; Howarth; June 25, Michigan Bell-Telephone and Hounds; Howarth; June 25, Michigan Bell-Fox and Hounds; Howarth; Summer-Merchants, Torrey Field; Michigan Bell-Summer Motors; Howarth; Fox and Hounds-Merchants, St. James.
All games start at 6:30 p.m. St. James field is at Edgewood and Lincoln; Howarth at Davis and Myers; Michigan Bell, Torrey field at the end of Ruffner street.
Photos must be submitted by noon each Friday to insure publication the following Thursday.

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

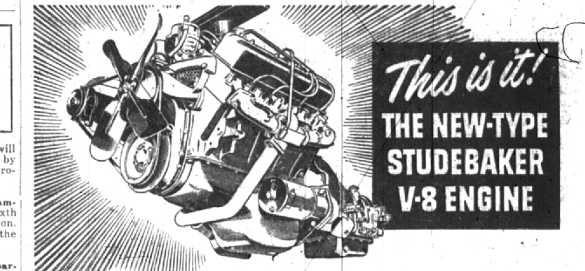


Hope "Cappy" Told Him Where To Get Off!

"Cappy" Fisher—who just retired after thirty-five years as a railroad conductor—was telling about a salesman who was often one of his passengers.
"That man was so busy," says Cappy, "he used to bring a dictaphone on the train to catch up on his letters. On one trip he'd been rushing around so much he clean forgot to bring his ticket. Left it on his desk."
When Cappy started to tell him not to worry about the ticket, the salesman busts out with "Who's worried about the ticket? It's just that now I don't know what city I was going to get off at!"
Cappy might have been pulling our leg, but from where I sit, looks as if he got so wrapped up in ourselves, we often forget "where we're going." Some folks get so narrow they even begrudge their neighbors the right to enjoy a glass of beer now and then. Let's not forget that just as train-rudders on steam and oil, democracies run on freedom and tolerance!
Joe Marsh

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WHY DO PEOPLE GET SO STEAMED UP WHEN IT'S SO UNNECESSARY?
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Yes, your family can enjoy all the convenience that hot water affords—24 hours a day—every day, when this big automatic Handley-Brown Gas Water Heater is on the job.
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ALL THESE DISHES AND NO HOT WATER
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THIS BIG IMPERIAL Speedmaster ONLY \$11775
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Save... AUTOMATIC GAS WATER HEATERS Cost Less to Buy... Less to Install... Less to Operate... THAN ANY OTHER AUTOMATIC TYPE OF WATER HEATER.
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