

Right in His Lap



Evil Always Needs Policing

When fire or floor strikes an area, one of the first things done by those in authority is to declare the place under martial law. This is done to prevent thievery, wholesale ransacking, even personal attacks on people.

In brief, when existing law and order agencies cannot cope with emergency conditions of lawlessness, the military takes over.

From Our Point of View

Now that the United States has adopted universal military training for its youth, it can be said that our youngest of all democracies "has grown up." In other words, we've reached that age in world history where man's inhumanity to man now is made manifest anywhere, any time, and for any of many reasons. In brief, WAR is an universal national inheritance and every nation must gird its loins for the possible battles that may come into existence.

To think of what they might have become... those many little mink that make up the coat of the White House stenographer? They might have kept warm the femininity of Hollywood's best stars, or a royal lady might have worn them to show her noble lineage, or those nice little mink might still be revealed to the public from the display window of the New York furrier who shipped them to the nation's Capital. (After all, shouldn't that famous "RFC coat" have been young skunk?)

It is presumed, naturally, that Alger Hiss, former State Dept. intimate of Dean Acheson, received honest American justice in his recent trial that found him guilty of perjury—Hiss denied that he ever was a Commie. Turned down for a new trial by the U.S. Supreme Court, Hiss now goes to prison for up to five years. What will historians say of this strange mess of "red herrings" in high Truman administration places? (Are the words "honor" and "integrity" about to vanish from American public life in the higher echelons of self-governing procedures?)

What has become of the idea that Michigan winters are becoming progressively warmer?

So They Say . . .

Reva Beck Bosene, Member of Congress from Utah:
"The strength of any civilization lies in women."

Hisato Ichimade, Governor of the Bank of Japan:
"The Japanese people know that they must cooperate with other free peoples of the world."

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue
Telephone Midwest 4-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager
GEORGE W. AVERILL, Managing Editor
HAROLD P. BUERGE, Advertising Manager

The Eccentric is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association and University Press Club.

The Eccentric will publish contributed material providing it has new 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 Eccentric will be gladly corrected if brought to the publisher's attention.

Such is the pattern of human nature—for in every segment of humanity are those who would destroy, steal, even rape.

All of which is by way of pointing out that some human beings, when given high and large responsibilities in government, often become unethical, even dishonest.

As, for example, in certain phases of the RFC operations, as revealed by the U. S. Senate Fulbright Committee.

Here is a federal agency with billions of taxpayers' dollars at its disposal, operated by human beings. Some of its loans, Fulbright has shown, were made "if you knew the right people; if you were willing to pay fees to the right people", etc., etc.

INDEED, SOME OF "the right people" worked within the White House. The whole mess is shocking to honest Americans.

So far, however, it has not shocked those within the Truman administration. Even the President, who originally called Fulbright's investigation "asinine", has not declared himself shocked.

What an evil example this whole mess is to the nation-at-large!

What a cleaning up many Washington, D.C., areas need!

Will 1952 be the year in which to start house-cleaning?

It ought to be—regardless of what political party some of the rascals belong to.

Plenty of Scandal

As New Deal-Fair Deal time runs its national political course, more and more old-line Democrats are lining up against the forces of evil in government. The Kefauver Senate Crime Investigating Committee, the Fulbright Senate Committee investigating the RFC are but two examples of this.

We all recall how shocked the nation was following the Teapot Dome Oil scandal in the Harding administration.

Well, if ever the New Deal-Fair Deal crowd loses control of the law enforcement agencies of the federal government you can look for investigations galore... investigations that will reveal private and public corruption of such magnitude that the hinges on many federal prisons will need plenty of lubricating oil to let the new crops of rascals inside.

Actions Speak Louder . . .

Some weeks ago the husband of a California woman announced that his wife was gallivanting about with one Elliott Roosevelt. This latter Casanova denied the husband's statement. So did the lady.

Now, with the lady divorced from her late spouse, she does wed Elliott, becoming his fourth wife. Boy, what a family of truth-tellers some of this Roosevelt clan is!

(Wanna know sumpin'? We'll wager a Truman dollar that Elliott and his latest gal don't live together for the next hundred years.)

Back Into Politics?

Baseball's Commissioner A. B. "Happy" Chandler failed to win re-appointment to his lush job when a majority of baseball moguls voted against him down Miami-way. "Happy" left his U. S. Senate job to preside over the diamond's destiny.

Now rumor hath it that he will be given a chance to go back to the Upper House, as one of Kentucky's two men in that area of our political arena. Sort of happy-go-political, as usual.

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.

50 YEARS AGO

March 22, 1901

Harry Allen, high school junior, won first honors at the oratorical contest last week. He will represent our school in the district contest two weeks hence. Levi Goodwin took second place and will alternate to the contest.

The robins are here in large numbers. Boys and girls are seeing to it that nothing harms our beautiful feathered friends. They are also making sure that these little songsters have plenty to eat whenever they get hungry.

At the meeting of the state association of village officers was our village represented? If not, why? Lansing is no farther away for village officers than for women's clubs and their members who seem to get there handily enough.

How many of our churches are planning to improve their property this spring? Most of them need it and it seems this would be a very good project for some of the young people to take up. Come to the Village Improvement society meeting and talk it over.

Chicken thieves are abroad in the land once more. Several farmers living south of this place have suffered losses within the past two weeks. Friday evening last they visited William Mills and carted off 20 choice pullets.

20 YEARS AGO

March 26, 1931

Confirmation has come from Washington assuring Birmingham of a new postoffice soon. The treasury department has recommended to Congress that an allocation of \$150,000 be set aside for building purposes for this town.

Thomas F. Chawke, noted criminal attorney in Michigan, will speak here April 1 on capital punishment. He is being brought to Birmingham by a local group working to oppose the bill and assure its being stopped in state bodies.

The annual maintenance drive will be staged by the Community House Apr. 20-24, with a goal of \$18,000, a reduction of \$7,000 from last year's budget. Members

of the steering committee met Monday night to complete plans.

Shain's drug store will observe its silver anniversary on Apr. 1. One of Birmingham's oldest business establishments, it has grown up with the community and has become an integral part of our daily lives. A special open house will mark the day.

R. J. Corryell told Bloomfield township supervisors last week that a part of the park fence would have to be moved since it had been erected on Grand Trunk property. This will necessitate the alteration of one of the golf course green and transplanting several trees, he said.

5 YEARS AGO

March 28, 1946

Plans for the addition of a new pump to the Birmingham fire department will bring that city body up to the standards set by the state as adequate for a city of this size. The purchase was urged by City Manager Donald C. Egbert and presented as a motion by Mayor Wilmer Moody, and passed.

William G. Olsen's request for a zoning change to permit him to erect a store on Willis street was denied by the city plan commission and city commissioners. The area in question is zoned for multiple dwellings.

April 1 is the opening date of the annual fund campaign for the Community House. The goal, this year, has been set at \$23,000. Campaign workers say they are hoping for the largest support ever given by Birmingham residents.

A study is being started for the widening of West Main according to City Manager Donald Egbert. It was pointed out that increased east-west traffic was making this necessary and that the work should be gotten under way as soon as possible.

Commissioners heard a report Monday that Birmingham was well on its way toward providing more homes for veterans. About 600 are now under construction in the city which are being built for sale at moderate prices.



Photo by Jack B. Stoll, Wirephoto.

Telephone team helps fight fire

A night fire on the John R. Cole farm in Hill-dale, Michigan, brought into action the teamwork of two telephone operators. Local Operator Cecilia Snow called members of the Hilldale Fire Department, and Toll Operator Phyllis Francis called nearby Allen, Reading and Jonesville for extra help. Mrs. Cole wrote afterward:

"We wish to commend the night operators for the wonderful service they gave us in procuring the fire engines to help fight fire at our farm when our barn burned. They were wonderful and stood right by. Please thank them for us."

It's people who make telephone service good.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY



MRS. JOHN R. COLE

CECILIA SNOW

PHYLLIS FRANCIS

Use Eccentric Classified Ads For Best Results



Blueprints of Your Future

... Not just a house... a garden... a sun-lit play yard... but SECURITY for you and your family. COMFORT in all of its spacious interiors, fierce PRIDE in the knowledge that it's just what you've always dreamed about—and now it's yours! Our low cost home loan plans make it easy for you to enjoy the advantages of home ownership right now.

Phone Us Today for Information
About Our Low-Cost Home
Loan Plans

THE BIRMINGHAM NATIONAL BANK
BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Member Federal Reserve System

Let Me Build Your Home

HENRY M. HENDERSON

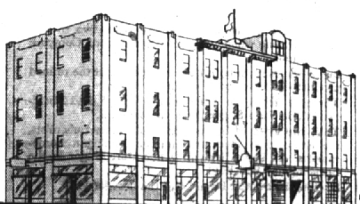
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

CUSTOM BUILDING—REMODELLING

Free estimates gladly given.

Phone: Ve. 6-1847

13951 Warwick, Detroit 23



You Are Cordially Invited to Inspect

OUR MODERN STORAGE

Built Especially to Store Household Goods

LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE MOVING

GAUKLER STORAGE CO.

9 Orchard Lake Ave., Pontiac, Mich.

Dial "O" ask for Enterprise 6305

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

WHAT'S THE USE OF SCREAMING?

Sure, and I don't like paying high fees for either. The little woman has a real problem these days trying to make her own decisions go very far. While we like an occasional "treat" once in a while, we haven't had them for a long time because they're too expensive.

This is the largest number to enter the race since the village became a city in 1932. In 1932, April, 1933 race was a village one and 17 candidates contested for the seven original vacancies.

Here according to the city files the yearly record of commission vacancies and the number of candidates:

Year	Candidates To Be Elected	Number of Candidates
1934	7 (14-yr. term)	4
1935	7	4
1936	7	4
1937	7	4
1938	7	4
1939	7	4
1940	7	4
1941	7	4
1942	7	4
1943	7	4
1944	7	4
1945	7	4
1946	7	4
1947	7	4
1948	7	4
1949	7	4
1950	7	4

THERE'S NO USE bullying the butcher, the grocer or the candidate's maker about the prices they charge. Our method of combating these high prices is two-fold: find a substitute or do without. That's an effective method if enough people use it. When stocks mold on shelves because the public isn't buying, then prices come down. If no sales are made, then people go out of business, whether it be retailer or manufacturer. So you won't hear the wife and I screaming about high prices. You simply won't buy the expensive items on our table if you come around for supper.

MRS. MARTHA C. SCHAEFER, 251 E. Brown, writes the city commission regarding some better method of voting that would make the people vote for the required number of candidates for a certain office than merely the favored one or two (or less than the number

to be elected). She probably realized when she read the letter that such a requirement would be an infringement upon one's individual liberty to vote or not, as the person chooses.

But her comment does point out that voters certainly do neglect, by design or indifference, to employ their elective opportunities to the fullest.

Those who do not vote at all, of course, are the worst offenders. There always is the opportunity to select the best candidate, even though his or her qualifications are not of the best.

Freedom was not built, nor can it be maintained, by running away from participation in governmental elections. Undeclared indifference in what officials are elected or what they do when elected invites disaster and loss of personal freedom.

General news deadline is 4:30 p. m. each Tuesday.

Many people have unwanted articles of various kinds—get what YOU want by asking for it in an Eccentric Classified Ad.