

We'd Like to Praise More

From time to time in this newspaper, we have commented critically about the Truman administration, its blunders and weaknesses, its lack of ethics in high places, and a long list of corollary negatives. Now and then when warranted, we have said something nice about the administration.

Frankly, we'd like to be able, in every issue, to applaud the man and his political cronies for good things they do with-

in the areas of their collective public trust. But it's mighty hard to find good things.

Oh, yes, we could mention the "good intentions" of Little Harry and his boys. But then we recall the old saying that "Hell is paved with good intentions."

We could discuss the socialistic programs of politically controlled health and housing programs, of subsidies to the farmers, of special privileges to certain groups, of federally supported education, etc., etc.; but where would that lead us... only further on the road toward State Socialism, and final collapse of the processes of self-government.

WHAT CAN WE SAY about Truman's foreign policy? It, too, may be filled with good intentions... yet, upon deeper consideration, can it be dedicated to the interest of the American people when we know that Secretary of State Acheson "would not turn his back on Alger Hiss", the convicted pro-commie. Can it be good for us when Truman, at Potsdam, tossed many of the fruits of victory into the lap of Joe Stalin... and finally the Korean "police action"?

Yes, we'd like to say nice things about the Truman administration, but we'd have to stretch the truth to do it... and the truth when stretched, becomes a falsehood.

The basic trouble, we think, lies in the fact that one political party for too long has had control of the federal government. We also believe that a comparable condition might have occurred had the Republican party held the national reins for nearly 20 years.

For human nature is human nature... regardless of party. It certainly is time for a change, if the United States of America is to remain the land of the free!

Charles J. Shain

In the passing, last week, of Charles J. Shain, Birmingham lost a life-long citizen who, during his 68 years here, left a distinct uplifting and progressive impression upon this community.

For most of the first half of this century the drug store that bears his name became an important part of the formative days of Birmingham. There young and old came, not only for purchases of goods, but to meet and chat, to sort of use it as a "community house" for the exchange of social and civic conversation.

Mr. Shain, always aggressive in any cause or project that gained his interest, also played important parts in the government development of both city (then village) and school governments.

IT WAS WHILE HE WAS village president that Birmingham acquired the three civic center blocks of land that now house the city hall, library and park square. His interest in school matters culminated in his service as a member of the Board of Education.

Numerous other civic projects, related to the development and progress of Birmingham from half-century ago village days up almost to the time of his passing, found "Charlie" Shain's shoulders willing to bear their load of civic responsibility.

In the life and works of people like Mr. Shain have been laid the substantial foundations of the cities and small communities of this nation.

LET IT BE RECORDED that he did more than his required allotment of work in helping the community that he called home. Although he never had any children of his own, his interest in local youth never abated. Perhaps no one will ever know how much his efforts on behalf of young people have helped them grow into good men and women, over the years.

Some day, we suggest, as Birmingham's recreational program develops, a playground may be named in his honor—fitting tribute to a man who did his share in the growth and care of his home-town!



Happenings of Long Ago

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

50 YEARS AGO May 24, 1901 Choice eggs for setting can now be had at 10c. Post's home at reduced prices. Only 50 cents per dozen for choice stock.

The beautiful blossoms on the shrubs at the cemetery are amply repaying the women for the time given last year removing the seed pods.

Henry Ward, tobacco vaiser in Pontiac, believes he has a solution to the problems connected with removing worms. He plans to drive a flock of 3,000 ducks from the field each day to do the job.

If you know of any item of general interest don't be afraid to tell us about it. The editor is supposed to know everything that is going on but without help from the people in possession of the facts he does not.

There are tulip thieves in our midst and soon some people will be surprised to see their names in black and white on a justice's summons. Several beds have been stripped and there are people swearing vengeance. The takers are not kids by any means.

20 YEARS AGO May 28, 1931 Plans for the celebration of Memorial Day July 4, 1931. More than 25 old cars will drive through here, including one owned by W. F. Davis, 32625 Bingham road.

The village commission is going to do something about dogs. It was suggested that inoculation against rabies would probably be a part of the new plan, which would also "do something" about those social canines which make the whole neighborhood home.

Cranbrook school will have 19 members in its first graduating class. Exercises will be held at the school on June 6, when George G. Booth, founder of the Institute,

will be one of the commencement speakers.

The board of review has opened its tax hearings for Birmingham property owners. Board members are Louis Haswell, Scott E. Hersey and Albert H. Noonan.

Fred T. Young, of Young's shoe store, reported to police that he had been made the victim of a worthless check made out for \$38.85. The check was made payable to "Harry Miller" and was signed by "W. E. Johnson", both believed to be fictitious names.

5 YEARS AGO May 30, 1946 The Rev. W. E. Cole of Detroit's First Congregational church will address 193 Baldwin high school seniors at the commencement exercises June 6. The Rev. Melvin W. Crump will deliver the baccalaureate sermon.

Rains Saturday made pets, owners and costumes a little dreary but did not halt the annual St. James Pet Parade. Hundreds of onlookers lined the streets and declared it "just about the best yet."

Localities will be taken back into the early automotive days when the cavalcade of old cars passes through here, en route to Detroit for July 4. More than 25 old cars will drive through here, including one owned by W. F. Davis, 32625 Bingham road.

Four sites have been named as suitable for temporary housing facilities for veterans. Federal agents have visited Birmingham to inspect the sites, but commissioners have received no official word, as yet.

Wylie E. Groves and Roland W. Reese have qualified as members of the board of education and will be candidates at the special election on Thursday. Polls will be open only from 4:30 p.m., since two candidates and two vacancies made the election merely a formality.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Life is like driving a car, and a rear-view mirror comes in mighty handy. In spite of the warnings we get about looking back into the past, it is often a pretty good idea.

If you are driving on a crowded highway you take many a quick glance into that mirror to "see what lies ahead." Your knowledge of what is behind you can play a pretty important part in how you will conduct yourself during the next few minutes.

Liveliest and greatest deal different in "spite of what they say about never looking back." We will be the first to admit that a habit of constantly living in the past isn't good for anyone, but sometimes you have learned a quick glance into it now and then, how else can we evaluate the future?

in the same manner as he judges the work he does. He must look into the past to build his future. He must learn to know himself as he is, and his future cannot tell him this. It is only the things he has done, not the things he will do by which he can be truly judged.

Looking carefully into your past, the past history of your family, your business and your country can give you a much clearer picture of your future.

Don't dwell in the past, but by all means do look at it now and then.

THE SCIENTIST often builds his future guesses upon what he hears in the past. The educator builds his program through a selection of past-used methods. The contractor creates his buildings because he knows what he can do by knowing what has been done before.

The failure of yesterday need not become a complex with you, but a stepping stone toward tomorrow's success. You will not, deliberately, make the same mistake twice unless you have learned it can bring you only failure in reaching your goal.

The builder who learns that wooden beams will not hold the weight of a "sky-scraper" will not use them a second time. He will use the material which past experience has taught him will serve his purpose best.

Looking about you, you will see that practically every success has been a second time. Breaking it down to find facts, these mistakes are remembered and analyzed and discarded.

Chapman Appointed Nash-Kelvinator Prod. Manager

A Lathrup Village resident, B. A. Chapman, 188-85 Sen Diego, has been appointed production manager of Nash-Kelvinator Corp., according to an announcement made this week by R. A. DeVlieg, vice-president in charge of manufacturing.

In his new capacity, Chapman will assume direct charge of production of all Nash automobile and Kelvinator appliance manufacturing and assembly plants in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Milwaukee and Kenosha, Wis., El Segundo, Calif., and Toronto, Canada.

Chapman also will head defense production activities which may be allocated these plants. He has been with the firm since 1937 in various engineering and manufacturing capacities, and has been assistant to the vice-president in charge of manufacturing since 1946.

Possession of the Frank E. Vignow Memorial trophy for the next year will be at stake when the annual Memorial Day shoot is held Wednesday at the Birmingham Gun club at 10 a. m. Amateur trapshooting rules will govern the shoot, according to Warren E. Bertelof, club secretary.

Shooter with the highest score in the handicap program will have his or her name engraved on the trophy.

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Button, button and the call goes through Push buttons simplify a lot of jobs in this electric age. Ten little push buttons now help Long Distance telephone operators handle more calls more quickly. A customer gives the operator the out-of-town number. She swiftly presses several buttons, which correspond to the letters and numbers on a telephone dial, and the call goes straight through to the distant telephone. That's the way it works in Detroit and a number of cities throughout the country. In many other places, including more than a dozen Michigan exchanges, telephone operators speed Long Distance calls by dialing direct to many points with regular dials. Named "operator toll dialing," this new development is already used on 1 1/2 million Long Distance calls daily and is steadily being expanded. Every minute it saves is important right now as the nation turns to the telephone to hurry our defenses. To help speed your Long Distance call, please give the operator the out-of-town telephone number. Telephone lines are busy with national defense MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

So They Say . . .

Anthony Eden, former British Foreign Minister: "It was the United States alone that saved the life of Western Europe."

London Economist, British publication: "No war with Russia could be won without the Western powers controlling the Mediterranean."

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

REMARKS AT RANDOM

Footling around with a pencil and the table of mathematics, I find that the per capita cost of city operation for next year is \$54.07. This is a drop from \$54.53 for the current year.

Although the 1951-52 budget increased \$155,210.55 to a record total of \$973,349.74, during the year more than 3,000 people moved into Birmingham. This apparent accounts for the decrease per capita.

City commissioners have approved the placing of five rubbish containers in the downtown area in an attempt to give City "Clean". Other civic groups are encouraged to purchase several such containers (at \$12.05 each) to aid in the effort.

the depositories. New York City has such an ordinance—and enforces it. City Commissioner Lance Minor found that out the hard way when he tested an empty cigarette package to the sidewalk.

I note that the city of Birmingham, and several cities to the south of us, are about ready to form a \$3,500,000 authority to dispose of garbage and combustible rubbish. One hitch, I understand, is still, which of the eight cooperating communities is willing to "have the plant within its city limits."

When classes move into the new Birmingham high school next fall, practically all the classroom facilities will be utilized.

Last September Sept. of School Dwight B. Ireland's duties showed 1,105 students (including about 300 night graders) would be going to classes in the new structure. It is not unreasonable to assume that in the 12 months until next September that 95 more high school students have been added to the local system.

The new building, Ireland says, can handle 1,200 without creating noticeable pressure on facilities.

Angle parking has been eliminated from the west side of Henrichs between Maple and Martin. The new building, Ireland gives the reason as "too little room for the free flow of traffic. Some people claim similar treatment should be given Woodward avenue—and pretty soon, too."

MAN MUST evaluate himself